

01/22/2022 NEWS

A treasure from two ancient shipwrecks was found by the IAA in Caesaria

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NfiMxkxxJSI>

"In times of universal deceit, telling the truth will be a revolutionary act."

-- George Orwell

[Eric Arthur Blair] (1903-1950) British author

**Read the Prophets & PRAY WITHOUT CEASING!**  
**That is the only hope for this nation!**

**Please Remember These Folks In Prayer-Check often They Change!**

**Pray that the world would WAKE UP!** Time for a worldwide repentance!

ALL US soldiers fighting for our freedom around the world

Pray for those in our government to repent of their wicked corrupt ways.

Pray for TS bat Y - Returned home but still ill

Pray for BB – Severe sciatic needing procedure.

Pray for TH - Knee and Blood pressure problems.

Pray for EL – Had clot embolized to brain – successful ‘clot buster’ but long road to go.

Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!

Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence

Pray for GB – bad reaction from Cancer drug

Pray for Ella – Child with serious problems

Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world

problems. – Have YOU made any preparations?

Exodus 4:<sup>20</sup> And Moses took his wife and his sons, and set them upon an ass, and he returned to the land of Egypt; and Moses took the rod of God in his hand. <sup>21</sup>And the LORD said unto Moses: 'When thou goest back into Egypt, see that thou do before Pharaoh all the wonders which I have put in thy hand; but I will harden his heart, and he will not let the people go. <sup>22</sup>And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh: Thus saith the LORD: Israel is My son, My first-born.

**The Plan to Tag Us for the New World Order Slave System**

**Via Mercola**

<https://www.theburningplatform.com/2022/01/16/the-plan-to-tag-us-for-the-new-world-order-slave-system/>

Dr. Zelenco is interviewed on Mercola's website and clearly explains the malevolent and evil actions going on today. He provides a very thorough and detailed history of his study of the problem. There is a written summary as well. – Long but worth the read - rdb

**Report: Israeli fighter jets, refueling planes hold massive drill aimed at Tehran**

*Maneuvers seen as intended to plan for strike on Iran, Saudi-owned Elaph claims, month after New York Times reveals new tankers seen as key to threat won't arrive before late 2024*

By [TOI staff](#) Today, 7:00 am

**Israeli fighter jets carried out a large drill over the Mediterranean that included practicing mid-air refueling, according to a report in a Saudi-run news outlet Thursday.**

**The unverified report in London-based Elaph described air maneuvers on Thursday by “an unusually large” contingent of F-15, F-16 and F-35 fighter craft, as well as Boeing mid-air refueling tankers, in what would likely be seen as a warning beacon to Iran amid Israeli threats to take military action in order to stop Tehran's nuclear program.**

Citing an unnamed Arab source, Elaph reported that the “wide” maneuver took place over the Mediterranean. Israeli defense officials, who rarely comment on foreign reports, could not be immediately reached.

The use of Israel’s aging mid-air refueling fleet would be the strongest indication that Israel is planning for an attack on Iran’s nuclear facilities, or would like to project to Tehran and the rest of the world that it is preparing.

Israel rarely advertises its use of the refueling craft in drills publicly, but they are occasionally used for exhibitions.

In 2013, mid-air refueling tankers were used publicly as part of a large drill involving nearly all air squadrons practicing for an attack on a long-range target, against a similar backdrop of tensions with Iran.

That time, the Israel Defense Forces uploaded videos to YouTube showing F-15 and F-16 fighter jets refueling mid-air over the water, following the exercise, which reportedly took place near Greece.

According to reports at the time, the clips marked the first time the IDF had ever published videos showing its mid-air refueling capabilities.



Boeing 707 and F-15 demonstrate mid-air refueling, December 1, 2014. (Ofer Zidon/Flash90)



A US Air Force Boeing KC-46 Pegasus aerial refueling plane connects to an F-35 fighter jet over California, January 22, 2019. (US Air Force photo by Ethan Wagner)

Because of the distance, carrying out an airstrike inside Iran and having enough fuel for the return trip would require Israeli planes to refuel in the sky or find a friendly airbase to land at.

A report in the New York Times last month, however, indicated that Israeli plans for a possible strike on Iran had been set back by delays in the delivery of eight new Boeing KC-47 supertankers, with consignment expected to take until late 2024 at least.

Current and former officials quoted in the report said Israeli military planners believe that any strike on Iran will likely require multiple sorties against some sites, such as the underground Fordo uranium enrichment facility, necessitating speedy refueling.

The \$2.4 billion deal for the eight planes was signed in March.

Israel is vocally opposed to the Iran nuclear deal, which US President Joe Biden has said he wants to rejoin after his predecessor Donald Trump withdrew the US from the pact in 2018 and reimposed sanctions. Tehran has since steadily increased its breaches of the accord. **MORE - <https://www.timesofisrael.com/report-israeli-fighter-jets-refueling-planes-hold-massive-drill-aimed-at-tehran/> Increasing reports of maneuvers and preparations keep flying in. It is an interesting game to try to decide which of the “hot” areas in the world will explode first. – rdb]**

## Dozens of settlers assault Palestinians and left-wing activists in West Bank

*Masked figures descending from illegal outpost hurl stones, beat people planting trees, set car alight; multiple people wounded, no arrests; settler leaders say they’re ‘horrified’*

By [Aaron Boxerman](#) Today, 2:27 pm

**Jewish extremists attacked Palestinians and left-wing Israeli activists in Burin in the West Bank Friday morning with clubs and stones, wounding at least six and burning a car, according to police, witnesses and footage from the scene.**

**The Israeli army and police were called to the scene after the attack began, but arrived after the perpetrators had apparently fled. A police spokesperson said officers were investigating the incident.**

**“Police will act decisively and forcefully to find the lawbreakers, capture them and bring them to justice,” he said.**

Israeli activists affiliated with Rabbis for Human Rights said they'd arrived at Burin, near Nablus, on Friday morning, to help Palestinian farmers plant trees on land inside the boundaries of the village.

**About an hour and a half later, dozens of masked figures descended from the nearby illegal Israeli settlement outpost of Givat Ronen, wielding clubs and stones.** At least six Israelis were injured during the attack, witnesses and medics said. It was not clear how many Palestinians were hurt.

**"They threw rocks through the windows of the car, poured gasoline on one of the cars, lit it on fire, and then turned their attention to throwing rocks and hitting any volunteer they could get their hands on,"** said Daniel Roth, an American-Israeli activist who works with Rabbis for Human Rights.



*An Israeli activist, bloodied from a beating allegedly by Jewish extremists in the West Bank near the outpost of Givat Ronen on Friday, on January 21, 2022. (Courtesy: Yesh Din)*



*A firefighter douses the flames in an Israeli car after it was allegedly set on fire by Jewish extremists in the West Bank near the outpost of Givat Ronen on Friday, on January 21, 2022. (Courtesy: Yesh Din)*

**Six Israelis wounded by the extremist assault were hospitalized in Beilinson Hospital in Petah Tikva. Some sustained head injuries, and another apparently had a broken hand. Roth said a settler hurled a large rock at his head, which he managed to block with his arm.**

טוב, לא תתי אדם. אז איך תקראו להם?  
— Yair Golan – יאיר גולן (@YairGolan1) [pic.twitter.com/XZkfk5XLQs](https://pic.twitter.com/XZkfk5XLQs) **January 21, 2022**

**A spokesperson for Yitzhar and the surrounding illegal outposts denied any knowledge of the incident.**

**The Yesha Council, which represents much of the settler leadership, issued a rare condemnation of the violent assault. The council deemed the attack “aberrant.”**

Saying it was “horrified” by images from the scene, the council said that **“such grave conduct is against the values of the people of Israel and harms the settlement movement. It is not our path.** We call on authorities to investigate the incident and bring the perpetrators to justice.”

**Israeli security officials have warned that violence by Jewish extremists in the West Bank has spiked in recent months. Shin Bet officials** told The Times of Israel in late December that Jewish extremist violence had increased by 50 percent over the past year.

Nonetheless, the internal Israeli political debate over the phenomenon has been divisive. Right-wing Israeli politicians have denounced the characterization of the attacks as “settler violence,” charging that it is an attempt to besmirch all Jews living in the West Bank.

**“There are marginal elements in every community and they should be dealt with using all means, but we must not generalize about an entire community,”** Prime Minister Naftali Bennett said in mid-December.

**Much of the violence is allegedly perpetrated by Jewish extremists who live in illegal outposts.** Deputy minister Yair Golan (Meretz) called them “subhuman” in early January, sparking backlash. He later apologized for his choice of words.

Following Friday’s attack, Golan sarcastically tweeted: “Okay, so they’re not subhuman. What do you want to call them, then?”

רעולי פנים מכים באלות פעילים שלהם ושל קואליציית המסיק שבאו לסייע RHRIS תיעוד של @  
לחקלאים פלסטינים באזור הכפר בורין ליד שכם.  
— Nurit Yohanan (@nurityohanan) [pic.twitter.com/IdsmdIuVdS](https://pic.twitter.com/IdsmdIuVdS) **January 21, 2022**

**Roth, who regularly attends protests in the West Bank, called the assault “a serious act of terrorism.”**



“It was a very, very hard day. A lot of people are going to be dealing with this for a long time, both Israeli activists and Palestinians from Burin, who face this violence regularly,” said Roth. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/settler-leaders-horrified-as-dozens-of-jewish-extremists-carry-out-w-bank-assault/> **[This is most unfortunate and a real blot on the Israeli general population because of a few bad actors – rdb]**

## **Police chief defiant amid NSO scandal: ‘Some want to harm our crimefighting ability’**

*Facing claims of spying on citizens, Kobi Shabtai tells officers force is ‘under attack,’ vows to continue to develop intel tech, insists authorities only use it lawfully*

By [TOI staff](#) Today, 1:50 pm

**With police facing public outrage over accusations they have regularly used spyware to break into Israelis’ phones without oversight, Police Commissioner Kobi Shabtai on Friday fiercely defended the force’s conduct, denied any widespread spying and vowed to respond severely to any “isolated incidents” of wrongdoing — if those are discovered.**

**Shabtai, in a letter sent to members of the force, said that “the police and one of its most important departments have been under attack, and it appears there are those who want to harm its ability to fight serious crime.”**

**The Calcalist business news outlet first reported on Tuesday that police have for years been making widespread use of NSO’s Pegasus spyware against Israeli civilians, including people not suspected of any crimes, without legal oversight. Further [reports](#) of misuse have since emerged.**

**Shabtai promised that “our lawful use of technological tools will continue, and furthermore we aim to continue to develop and upgrade those tools. A police force that wishes to remain relevant in its fight against crime must behave in such a manner.”**

**The police chief insisted that any use of spyware technology was done lawfully, with oversight and “in compliance with the necessary legal authorizations.”**

**He noted that Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit, in announcing a probe of the allegations on Thursday, had stressed that he had so far found no basis for the claims made in media reports.**

**Shabtai vowed to cooperate fully with the inquiry. But he said he’d ordered officials “to hold meticulous inquiries into the claims made by the report, and so far we have found no proof that the incidents reported actually happened.”**

**“There is not and has not been a scenario where police methodically and systematically harmed the privacy of innocent citizens and protesters,” he wrote. “There is not and has not been a scenario where police violated the unwritten pact of protection with the country’s citizens. There is no basis for the claims of a police force that is spying on its citizens.”**

**He insisted that “the technological tools at our disposal are directed at criminals or those seeking to carry out dangerous offenses.”**

**Nevertheless, he added that “if problems arise or isolated incidents are found in which these capabilities were used unlawfully, they will be handled with the appropriate severity. We will not allow any deviation from the norms and values that guide the police.”**

Mandelblit informed Shabtai on Thursday of the investigation, to be led by Deputy Attorney General Amit Marari.

**The attorney general said in his missive to police that “it is difficult to overstate the severity of the alleged harm to basic rights” if the report is true.**

He said that while the claims “paint a highly concerning picture, [the report] does not include sufficiently concrete information, which makes it difficult to identify the incidents in question.”

**He noted that a review of the materials supplied by police to justice officials did not raise concerns of any misuse of technology. However, he stressed that cops had not provided full details on the mechanisms by which they handle the technology.**

“Insofar as wrongful conduct is found, it certainly could constitute a criminal offense.”

**The explosive Calcalist report sparked an outcry from lawmakers, activists and [privacy experts](#). [MORE - https://www.timesofisrael.com/police-chief-defiant-amid-nso-scandal-some-want-to-harm-our-crimefighting-ability/](https://www.timesofisrael.com/police-chief-defiant-amid-nso-scandal-some-want-to-harm-our-crimefighting-ability/) **Intrusive actions by government authorities is rampant around the world. It is in every country and in almost every regime no matter what political bent they try to claim. These are the days of Orwellian surveillance. – rdb]****

**Israelis should demand higher wages to counteract inflation, economists say**

*As prices continue to increase in Israel, poverty rates began to rise in tandem, and while demanding better wages is one way to fight back, some experts warn raising wages could lead to inflationary spiral and additional price hikes*  
The Media Line | Published: 01.21.22, 20:03

**Israeli workers should demand higher wages in order to counteract the effects of inflation, which recently hit its highest rate in 10 years, leading economists have said.**

**The Central Bureau of Statistics last week reported that inflation rates in Israel reached 2.8% in 2021, while the consumer price index rose by 0.3% during the month of December. In 2021, the CPI surged by 2.8%, marking a decade high that nevertheless still falls within the Bank of Israel's target range of 1%-3%.**

**Demanding better wages is one way to fight back, according to Joseph Zeira, an emeritus professor of economics at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.**

**"Any rise in prices is regressive," Zeira told said. "It hurts the poor more than the rich.** The solution to that is raising wages. First of all, we should raise the minimum wage, which especially helps people with lower incomes."

**"I think that the Histadrut should wake up and demand an increase in wages ... They've been sleeping,"** he said, referring to Israel's largest labor union. "When prices go up our real wages are eroded, so workers should demand an adjustment of their wages and that will protect them against the rising prices."

**The Israeli government recently said it would gradually increase the minimum wage to roughly 33 shekels (\$10.60) by 2025. But Zeira argued that the minimum wage should be raised from its current 29 shekels (\$9.30) to 40 shekels (\$12.85).**

**As prices continue to increase, poverty rates in Israel have already begun to rise in tandem. Nearly 1 in 3, or 31.2%, of children in Israel, lived below the poverty line in 2021, marking a 2.5% increase over a year earlier, according to a report that was published by Bituach Leumi, or National Insurance Institute, late last month.**

**Poverty rates overall increased from 21% in 2020 to 22.7% a year later, representing some 2.1 million people. The poverty line in Israel for a family of four stands at 9,000 shekels per month, or about \$2,900.**

**Meanwhile, in the United States, the CPI increased by 7% in December year-on-year, representing the largest jump since June 1982.**

**While some have said that the current inflation is linked to COVID-related supply chain issues, Zeira believes that it is due to decisions by central banks to increase the amount of money in circulation. He also foresees prices stabilizing over the next year or two.**

**"What we have in the U.S. and in Israel is that the central banks, for various reasons, expanded the quantity of money significantly," he explained. "Now is the time for prices to adjust themselves."**

Other experts disagree and argue that the pandemic is largely to blame for price hikes because it has caused dramatic supply chain issues around the globe, especially in transportation and shipping.

**Ori Greenfeld, a chief strategist at Psagot, Israel's largest investment firm, said that he is nevertheless optimistic that the situation will stabilize over the coming year.**

**"The consumer has to pay for it in the end, but when we think about these disruptions we shouldn't be worried because they will end someday," Greenfeld said.**

**What is more concerning at the moment, he noted, is the inflationary pressure that appears to be coming from the consumer side of the market. Consumer demand for housing and nearly all other goods and services has risen significantly.** Together with this, a number of industries are suffering from severe labor shortages and workers have begun to demand higher wages.

**"In the U.S., wages are going up, the price of services is going up and so this is why the Federal Reserve is very concerned," Greenfeld said. "In Israel, this is not the case yet, but we're starting to see some hints that we might get this in the next few months and if that happens then we should worry because then the Bank of Israel will have to raise interest rates. Any kind of interest rate hike will hurt the economy because people took loans and mortgages."**

Unlike Zeira, Greenfeld believes that raising wages will inevitably lead to further price hikes.

**"When you have to pay more for your workers, then you also have to raise prices because you don't want to lose money," he explained. "Then you start an inflationary spiral. You raise wages, then you raise prices and you have more inflation so people go to their employers and [ask for] another raise."**

<https://www.ynetnews.com/magazine/article/bku119q4at>

**Thousands of Israelis stuck without electricity as winter reaches its climax**

*Rights' activists say power outages are a result of contentious system where needy families pre-pay for electricity and whenever they reach limit, power is cut off; method has been criticized as a way for Israel Electric Corporation to 'outsmart the poor'*

*Hadar Gil-Ad | Published: 01.21.22, 08:41*

**As winter season reaches its climax in Israel, with temperatures falling below freezing in some areas, many Israelis find themselves stuck without electricity, unable to warm their homes and prepare a meal due to financial troubles.**

**The situation appears to be a result of a contentious payment system used in Israel, where some residents pay in advance to charge a pre-paid power usage meter, and every time they reach the limit, depending on the amount paid, the electricity automatically turns off, leaving them with no heat or light.**

**Rina, 55, woke up this Sunday - which was one of the coldest days in the Jewish state this year - shaking, since her apartment was cut off of electricity yet again.**

**"I'm always afraid because I'm living on the edge," said Rina. I suffer from a physical disability, I have a muscle disease, and it's very hard to live in this kind of condition during the winter. I also struggle financially, and on Sunday morning I've been looking for someone who could help me, and pay to charge my electricity meter.**

**"But even after I found someone, it takes time and a lot of bureaucracy, and until then, I don't have electricity in my house. I find myself in situations where I'm literally frozen. I told the electricity company I might reach hypothermia, so what are they waiting for?" she said.**

**"Every time I charge the meter with NIS 200-250, which is all I have, and it lasts for two weeks, and that's because I'm trying to save as much as I can, so I barely turn on the heater, and I just use multiple blankets in order to not waste too much electricity."**

**Daliyha, 56, is in a similar situation, stuck with no electricity, while her son, daughter-in-law, and her grandchild are in her apartment isolating because they had tested positive for COVID-19.**

**"I have both physical and mental disability, and I live off a disability pension of only NIS 3,000 a month," Daliyha said. "And with this amount I need to pay rent, bills, purchase medicine, and food, so not much is left for electricity."**

**She called the situation "a disgrace," adding that "life in Israel is very expensive, and the country doesn't help".**

**Since the beginning of the pandemic, the Israel Electric Corporation allowed its consumers to use an "emergency code" to prevent families from being left out without power. However, this service was recently canceled, even though the company claims they allow it to be used on colder days.**

**"The pre-paid power meter is Israel Electric Corporation's method to outsmart the poor in order not to connect them to electricity since they can't pay for it," said co-CEO of the Breaking Walls movement Carmen Elmakiyes Amos, which is an organization that promotes public campaigns and civic, feminist community activism - publicly funded and for the benefit of the public.**

**The organization approached the Israel Electric Corporation with an emergency request to change the policy of cutting off electricity to those who have a pre-paid meter due to their financial struggle.**

**"It's a bad system that leaves people without power on cold days," Elmakiyes added. "Thousands of families live in existential anxiety that maybe tomorrow morning there will be no electricity at home and that's crazy. Electricity is a fundamental right and we will continue to fight for it."**



**The Israel Electric Corporation said in a comment: "In extreme weather, as we are experiencing these days, emergency codes are pre-ordered to be provided without immediate charge for all who demand it.**

*Freezing weather in Jerusalem on Wednesday (Photo: Yyoav Dudkevich)*

**"The company also provides service for customers with financial difficulties known to the welfare authorities. For nearly two years, since the outbreak of the coronavirus, the company has provided emergency codes with no limit."**



The company said the so-called emergency use codes used by the needy ultimately create a debt, which is then paid by the taxpayers' funds.

"As a rule, a prepaid electricity meter is not necessarily installed only for underprivileged groups of consumers, unless the customer found it to be the best solution to efficiently manage the power usage in his household," the company added. <https://www.ynetnews.com/magazine/article/h1rixnf6y>

## Israel sees 70,000 new COVID cases, with 638 hospitalized in serious condition

Those who receive booster dose continue to be better protected against serious COVID symptoms; ministry reports a 67% rise in cases from previous week

By [TOI staff](#) Today, 7:06 pm



*An Ezer Mizion volunteer wearing safety gear visits a patient in the coronavirus ward of Shaare Zedek hospital in Jerusalem, on January 20, 2022. (Olivier Fitoussi/Flash90)*

**The Health Ministry updated its coronavirus figures on Friday, revealing that nearly 70,000 Israelis tested positive for COVID-19 the day before, with the number of patients in serious condition climbing to 638.**

**Total active cases rose to 427,023 and 1,758 Israelis were hospitalized in all, with 123 of them on ventilators.**

At least 9,867 medical staff were sidelined after contracting COVID themselves, including 1,379 doctors and 2,916 nurses,

the ministry said.

**Among those hospitalized in serious condition due to the coronavirus, 55% had received a booster shot, 24% were not vaccinated at all and the remainder were partially vaccinated or previously recovered from COVID.**

Those who received the third, booster dose of the vaccine still remained better protected against serious COVID symptoms, Health Ministry data showed, adding that Israelis over the age of 60 were 85% boosted, while Israelis over 60 who were hospitalized in serious condition were only 60% boosted.

**Just over 20% of tests came back positive**, including 22.5% of the PCR samples and 18.4% of the rapid antigen samples.

**The Health Ministry also released 7-day figures which showed 436,028 new cases during that time period — a 67% rise from the week before.** Serious cases totaled 775 — a 130.7% rise from the previous week. COVID-related deaths added up to 58 — a 34.9% rise from the previous week.

**COVID data from Wednesday showed that Israel was leading the world in new daily COVID-19 cases per capita.**

Speaking to **Channel 12 news**, a top health expert advising the government cited figures from **Our World in Data** showing that **0.6% of the population was testing positive** per day.

The numbers comparing each country's seven-day running average put Israel at the top, Prof. Eran Segal of The Weizmann Institute said.

But Segal noted it was likely that Israel was not truly the country with the highest infection rate. Rather, he attributed the figures to Israel being a leading country in the number of tests performed each day, relative to its population size.

Israel is followed in the highest daily cases worldwide ranking by Mongolia, Peru, Canada and Georgia.

Prime Minister Naftali Bennett announced Thursday that mandatory quarantine for schoolchildren who were exposed to coronavirus carriers would be scrapped entirely.

**According to the plan, starting next Thursday, children up to the age of 18 will no longer need to isolate after being exposed.**

Instead, **all students — both vaccinated and unvaccinated — will need to conduct two antigen tests a week** — on Sundays and Wednesdays — and present negative results when entering educational institutions.

Children who test positive for COVID-19 will still need to isolate until testing negative.

The testing will be done at home, with Bennett announcing that "millions" of test kits will be given out to parents.

The move comes as some 146,000 school-age children were in quarantine due to infection, and a further 142,000 due

to exposure, according to Health Ministry data published Wednesday. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-sees-70000-new-covid-cases-with-638-hospitalized-in-serious-condition/>

## At least 70 killed, hundreds wounded in Saudi-led strike on Yemen prison

*Doctors without Borders: Prison bombing 'a horrific act of violence'; second attack knocks out internet in country; strikes come after Houthi drone attack on UAE oil facility*

By [Jon Gambrell](#) Today, 6:46 pm



*This photo provided by Ansar Allah Media Office, a man is rescued early Friday, Jan. 21, 2022, after Saudi-led airstrikes targeted a site in the contested city of Hodeida, Yemen. (Ansar Allah Media Office via AP)*

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — The health minister in the rebel government set up by Yemen's Houthi rebels says the airstrike on a rebel-run detention facility in the country's north early on Friday killed at least 70 detainees.**

**The minister, Taha al-Motawakel, told The Associated Press in the Yemeni capital, Sanaa — which is also held by the rebels — that he expects the number of those killed to rise since many of the wounded are seriously hurt. He says there would be**

updates on the death toll in the coming hours.

**The strike was part of an intensified aerial campaign by the Saudi-led coalition** that has waged war on the Iran-backed rebels since 2015. The strikes stepped up after the Iran-backed rebels claimed an attack that hit the United Arab Emirates earlier this week. Another airstrike in the port city of Hodeida earlier Friday apparently took Yemen entirely off the internet.

**A strike in the port city of Hodeida, later confirmed by satellite photos analyzed by The Associated Press, hit a telecommunication center there that's key to Yemen's connection to the internet. Airstrikes also hit near Sanaa, Yemen's capital,** held by the Iranian-backed Houthi rebels since late 2014.

**The intense campaign comes after the Houthis claimed a drone and missile attack that struck inside the capital of the United Arab Emirates earlier in the week.**

**Basheer Omar, an International Committee of the Red Cross spokesperson in Yemen, gave the casualty figure to the AP.** He said rescuers continued to go through the prison site in the northern city of Saada, also controlled by the Houthis.

"The toll is likely to increase, unfortunately," Omar said. The Red Cross had moved some of the wounded to facilities elsewhere, he said. There was no breakdown for how many were killed and how many were wounded.

Doctors Without Borders in a separate statement put the number of wounded alone at "around 200" people.

*This photo provided by Ansar Allah Media Office, a man is rescued early Friday, January 21, 2022, after Saudi-led airstrikes targeted a site in the contested city of Hodeida, Yemen. (Ansar Allah Media Office via AP)*

**"From what I hear from my colleague in Saada, there are many bodies still at the scene** of the airstrike, many missing people," said Ahmed Mahat, the organization's head of mission in Yemen. "It is impossible to know how many people have been killed. It seems to have been a horrific act of violence."

**The organization Save the Children said over 60 were killed in Saada,** describing the prison as holding detained migrants.

**"The initial casualties report from Saada is horrifying,"** said Gillian Moyes, Save the Children's country director in Yemen. "Migrants seeking better lives for themselves and their families, Yemeni civilians injured by the dozens, is a picture we never hoped to wake up to in Yemen."

**The Saudi-led coalition fighting the Houthis did not immediately acknowledge the strike** in Saada.



As for the airstrike in Hodeida that apparently took Yemen entirely offline, NetBlocks said the internet disruption began around 1 a.m. local and affected TeleYemen, the state-owned monopoly that controls internet access in the country. TeleYemen is now run by the Houthis.

Yemen faces “a nation-scale collapse of internet connectivity” after an airstrike on a telecommunications building, NetBlocks said.

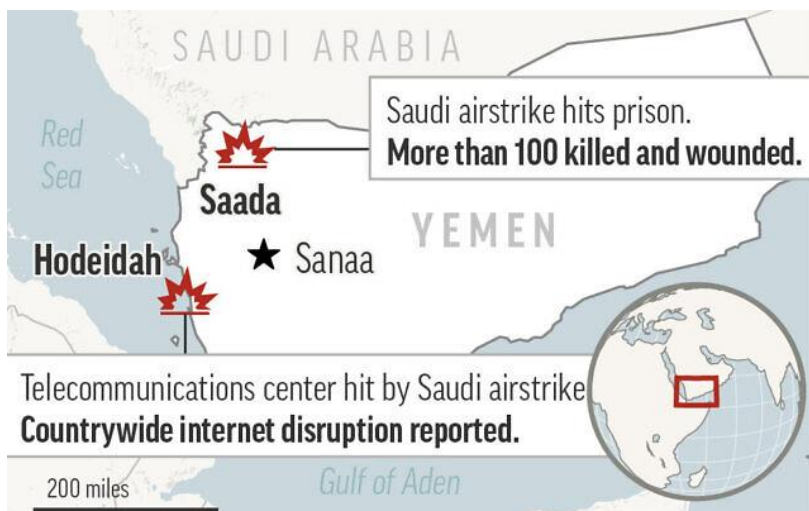
The San Diego-based Center for Applied Internet Data Analysis and San Francisco-based internet firm CloudFlare also noted a nationwide outage affecting Yemen beginning around the same time.

**Over 12 hours later, the internet remained down. The Norwegian Refugee Council decried the strike as “a blatant attack on civilian infrastructure that will also impact our aid delivery.”**

The Houthis’ Al-Masirah satellite news channel said the strike on the telecommunications building had killed and wounded people. It released chaotic footage of people digging through rubble for a body as gunshots could be heard. Aid workers assisted bloodied survivors.

Save the Children said the airstrike in Hodeida killed at least three children playing on a soccer field.

Satellite photos analyzed by the AP corresponded to photos shared on social media of the telecommunications building being flattened by the airstrike.



*Map locations of two Saudi airstrikes in Yemen: one striking a prison in the northwest city of Saada, and the other in the western port city of Hodeidah, where a telecommunications hub was struck, crippling the country’s internet access. (AP)*

**The Saudi-led coalition battling the Houthi rebels acknowledged carrying out “accurate airstrikes to destroy the capabilities of the militia” around Hodeida’s port. It did not immediately acknowledge striking a telecommunication target as NetBlocks described, but instead called Hodeida a hub for piracy and Iranian arms smuggling to back the Houthis.** Iran has denied arming the Houthis, though United Nations experts, independent analysts and Western nations

point to evidence showing Tehran’s link to the weapons.

The undersea FALCON cable carries internet into Yemen through the Hodeida port along the Red Sea for TeleYemen. The FALCON cable has another landing in Yemen’s far eastern port of Ghaydah as well, but the majority of Yemen’s population lives in its west along the Red Sea.

**A cut to the FALCON cable in 2020 caused by a ship’s anchor also caused widespread internet outages in Yemen.** Land cables to Saudi Arabia have been cut since the start of Yemen’s civil war, while connections to two other undersea cables have yet to be made amid the conflict, TeleYemen previously said.

**The Saudi-led coalition entered Yemen’s civil war in 2015 to try and restore to power the impoverished country’s internationally recognized government,** ousted by the Houthis the year before. The war has turned into the world’s worst humanitarian crisis, with international criticism of Saudi airstrikes that have killed hundreds of civilians and targeted the country’s infrastructure. The Houthis meanwhile have used child soldiers and indiscriminately laid landmines across the country.

**The war has killed some 130,000 people, including over 13,000 civilians slain in targeted attacks,** according to the Armed Conflict Location & Event Project.

The war reached into the UAE, a Saudi ally, on Monday, when the Houthis claimed a drone and missile attack on Abu Dhabi, killing three people and wounding six. Although the UAE has largely withdrawn its forces from the conflict, it remains heavily involved in the war and supports local militias on the ground in Yemen.

On Thursday, the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said he was alarmed at the ongoing airstrikes in Sanaa, Hodeida and other locations in Yemen, as well as separate shelling attacks. The body’s special envoy to Yemen, Hans Grundberg, ended a visit to Riyadh on Thursday that was meant to discuss the spike in hostilities with Saudi and exiled Yemeni government officials. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/at-least-70-killed-hundreds-wounded-in-saudi-led-strike-on-yemen-prison/> **[There is an enormous fallacy in the reporting of most every conflict today. Everyone is screaming that there are civilian casualties and the civilian infrastructure is damaged. The wars of today are in most cases terrorist wars where the terrorists have intermingled with the civilians as part**

of their 'camouflage' and tactics. You can't take them out without going in and going door to door which results in enormous casualties particularly when dealing with these types of rebel/terrorists. There is no such thing as a 'clean or a kind' war. There is no such thing as a humane war. The insistence of the international groups who howl and scream because of collateral damage and that people aren't following Geneva convention rules is sheer ignorance. The only thing that the Geneva rules do is prolong the conflict and increase the number of casualties usually on both sides. War is HELL and always has been. The way to end a war is to totally subdue a foe or drive them into submission and then they will quit. So long as the nations persist with their stupid demands for a 'humane – civilized' war they will never cease.-l rdb]

## No 'breakthroughs' at US-Russia talks in bid to reduce tensions in Ukraine crisis

*In Geneva, Blinken says sides 'on a clearer path to understanding each other's positions' amid bid to put off feared Russian invasion; Lavrov: Meeting 'constructive and useful'*

By [Matthew Lee](#) and [Jamey Keaten](#) Today, 5:26 pm

**GENEVA (AP) — The United States and Russia sought to lower the temperature in a heated standoff over Ukraine, even as they reported no breakthroughs in high-level, high-stakes talks on Friday aimed at preventing a feared Russian invasion.**

**Armed with seemingly intractable and diametrically opposed demands, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov met in Geneva for roughly 90 minutes at what the American said was a "critical moment."**

**But there was no apparent movement on either side, and** Blinken said the US and its allies remain resolute in rejecting Russia's most important demands.

**Nonetheless, Blinken told Lavrov that the US would present Russia with written responses to its proposals next week and suggested the two men would likely meet again** shortly after that.

**With an estimated 100,000 Russian troops massed near Ukraine, many fear Moscow is preparing an invasion,** although Russia denies that. The US and its allies are scrambling to present a united front to prevent that or coordinate a tough response if they can't.

**"We didn't expect any major breakthroughs to happen today,** but I believe we are now on a clearer path to understanding each other's positions," Blinken told reporters after the meeting.



*US Secretary of State Antony Blinken (left) shakes hands with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov before their meeting, on Friday, January 21, 2022, in Geneva, Switzerland. (AP Photo/Alex Brandon, Pool)*

**Blinken said Lavrov repeated Russia's insistence that it has no plans to invade Ukraine, but stressed that the US and its allies were not convinced of that.**

**"We're looking at what is visible to all, and it is deeds and actions and not words that make all the difference,"** he said, adding that Russia should remove its troops from the Ukrainian border if it wanted to prove its point.

**Lavrov, meanwhile, called the talks "constructive and useful" and said the US agreed to provide written responses to Russian demands on Ukraine and NATO next week.** That could at least delay any imminent aggression for a few days.

But Lavrov declined to characterize the US pledge.

**"I can't say whether we are on the right track or not,"** he told reporters. **"We will understand that when we receive the US written response to all of our proposals."**

Moscow has demanded that the NATO alliance promise that Ukraine — a former Soviet republic — never be allowed to join. It also wants the allies to remove troops and military equipment from parts of eastern Europe.

**The US and its NATO allies have flatly rejected those demands and say that Russian President Vladimir Putin knows they are nonstarters.** They have said they're open to less dramatic moves.

**Blinken said the US would be open to a meeting between Putin and US President Joe Biden, if it would be "useful and productive."** The two leaders have met once in person, in Geneva, and have had several virtual conversations on Ukraine that have proven largely inconclusive. **[Productive? In the leftists perspective it**

means 'that we get our way'. That has been well demonstrated in everything the leftist groups have done in politics for years. – rdb]

**Washington and its allies have repeatedly promised “severe” consequences** such as biting economic sanctions — though not military action — against Russia if an invasion goes ahead.

**Blinken repeated that warning Friday. He said the US and its allies were committed to diplom**acy, but also committed “if that proves impossible, and Russia decides to pursue aggression against Ukraine, to a united, swift and severe response.”

**But he said he also wanted to use the opportunity to share directly with Lavrov some “concrete ideas to address some of the concerns that you have raised,** as well as the deep concerns that many of us have about Russia’s actions.”

Ukraine is already beset by conflict. Russia’s Putin seized control of Ukraine’s Crimea Peninsula in 2014 and backed a separatist insurgency in eastern Ukraine, part of a simmering but largely stalemated conflict with Ukrainian forces that has taken more than 14,000 lives. Putin faced limited international consequences for those moves, but the West says a new invasion would be different.

**Ahead of his meeting with Lavrov, Blinken met Ukraine’s president in Kyiv and top diplomats from Britain, France and Germany in Berlin this** week.

**Adding to its repeated verbal warnings to Russia, the US stepped up sanctions on Thursday. The US Treasury Department slapped new measures on four Ukrainian officials. Blinken said** the four were at the center of a Kremlin effort begun in 2020 to damage Ukraine’s ability to “independently function.”

**The Russian Foreign Ministry reaffirmed its demands Friday that NATO not expand into Ukraine,** that no alliance weapons be deployed near Russian borders and that alliance forces pull back from Central and Eastern Europe.

The State Department, **meanwhile, put out three statements – two on Russian “disinformation,” including specifically on Ukraine, and another entitled “Taking Action to Expose and Disrupt Russia’s Destabilization Campaign in Ukraine.”** The documents accused Russia and Putin of trying to reconstitute the former Soviet Union through intimidation and force.

**The Russian Foreign Ministry mocked those statements, saying they must have been prepared by an Orwellian “Ministry of Truth,” and Lavrov** caustically dismissed them.

“I do hope that not everyone in the State Department was working on those materials and there were some who were working on the essence of our proposals and their substance,” he said.

**The Russian Foreign Ministry also rejected Western claims that Moscow was trying to rebuild the Soviet empire** and carve out its zone of influence in eastern Europe, charging that it’s the West that thinks in categories of zones of influence.

Blinken has taken pains to stress US unity with its allies in opposition to a possible Russian invasion, something that took an apparent hit earlier this week when Biden drew widespread criticism for saying retaliation for Russian aggression in Ukraine would depend on the details and that a “minor incursion” could prompt discord among Western allies.

On Thursday, Biden sought to clarify his comments by cautioning that any Russian troop movements across Ukraine’s border would constitute an invasion and that Moscow would “pay a heavy price” for such an action.

“I’ve been absolutely clear with President Putin,” Biden said. “He has no misunderstanding: Any, any assembled Russian units move across the Ukrainian border, that is an invasion.”

**Russia on Thursday accused the West of plotting “provocations” in Ukraine, citing the delivery of weapons to the country by British military transport planes** in recent days. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/no-breakthroughs-at-us-russia-talks-in-bid-to-reduce-tensions-in-ukraine-crisis/>

## **US asks Russia to prove a negative**

*The US Secretary of State has urged Moscow to ‘convince the world’ it has no plans to attack its neighbor*  
21 Jan, 2022 17:03

**During talks on Friday in Geneva with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken asked his counterpart to prove a negative.**

**The diplomat urged Moscow to move troops, stationed on its own territory, away from the Ukrainian border so as to “convince the world” it harbored “no aggressive intent” toward its neighbor.**

Blinken said the other step Russia could take was to engage in dialogue and diplomacy, “*which is what we did today.*”

He warned Lavrov of a “*united, swift, and severe response,*” should Moscow “*pursue aggression against Ukraine,*” adding that, while he had expected no breakthroughs, the two nations were “*now on a clear path to understanding.*”



Referring to Russia's calls for NATO to give guarantees that Ukraine would not become part of the military alliance, Lavrov stressed that Moscow was seeking "concrete answers to our concrete proposals." He expressed cautious optimism, as Washington has promised to provide Russia with written answers to all those points next week.

According to Lavrov, American calls for de-escalation at the Ukrainian border have, by now, turned into a mantra, much like its arguments about countries having the right to freedom of choice with respect to joining any alliance. The foreign minister said Moscow had furnished the US and NATO with multiple documents that clearly stipulate that such options cannot be exercised at the expense of other nations' security.

The two diplomats have agreed to follow-up conversations on these matters, with a meeting between Russian President Vladimir Putin and his US counterpart, Joe Biden, also potentially on the table.

Western media outlets and senior politicians alike have been claiming for months that Russia is planning to invade Ukraine. Moscow has consistently denied those allegations, dismissing them as baseless, and cited its right to move its troops within its territory as it pleases without having to account for those maneuvers to other nations. The Kremlin has also made it clear that it takes issue with the fact that some Western nations have sent weapons to Ukraine.

<https://www.rt.com/russia/546781-blinken-lavrov-ukraine-de-escalation/> [The dolts in the US State Department will talk themselves into a war if they keep going. I'm waiting for Russia to put rockets in Cuba. – rdb]

## Spain leads call for COVID-19 to be treated like flu

*Madrid says governments should start tackling disease as any other endemic respiratory virus, but WHO warns such an attitude is premature*

By [AFP](#) Today, 9:31 am

Spain is spearheading calls for governments to start tackling COVID-19 as any other endemic respiratory virus like seasonal flu, despite WHO opposition and warnings that the approach is premature.

With governments and populations worldwide desperate for an end to the pandemic, discussion about when the virus might be reclassified has intensified.

"Spain wants to lead this debate because it is timely and necessary to do so," Health Minister Carolina Darias has said, adding that Spain asked the European Centre for Disease Prevention (ECDC) to "study new strategies" to deal with Covid.

Spain is in a good position to open the debate, having one of the world's highest vaccination rates with 90.5 percent of its population over the age of 12 fully immunized.

But the question has sparked disagreement between governments seeking some sort of normality and some parts of the medical community which advocate keeping its guard up.

Spain's left-wing government has been a prominent advocate of reclassifying COVID-19 as an endemic disease with milder seasonal outbreaks that humanity can live with, like the flu.

The country is working with the scientific community to eventually shift from "managing a pandemic to managing a disease which we hope science will reclassify as an endemic illness," Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez said this week.

Although Omicron has triggered a surge in infections, there have been fewer deaths and lower rates of hospital admissions, with many governments easing restrictions, reducing isolation times and loosening border controls.



"As COVID becomes endemic, we will need to replace legal requirements with advice and guidance," British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said Wednesday, announcing that restrictions were being lifted in England.

*A healthcare worker tends to a Covid-19 patient, at the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of the Bellvitge University Hospital in Barcelona on January 19, 2022 (Josep Lago / AFP)*

Arguing "we must learn to live with COVID" in a similar way to seasonal flu, British Health Secretary Sajid Javid said the government would set out a long-term plan for living with coronavirus within months.

On Tuesday, however, World Health Organization chief

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus insisted that the pandemic was “nowhere near over,” warning that new variants were still “likely to emerge.” **[this is most interesting. I don't think that Tedros and the globalist group ever want the COV to go away or to stop the 'terror porn' campaign. – rdb]**

The **UN health organization also warned against the temptation to play down the seriousness of an endemic disease.**

“Endemic in itself does not mean good — endemic just means it's here forever,” the WHO's emergencies director, Michael Ryan, told the Davos Agenda roundtable on vaccine equity, citing malaria as an example.

**Fernando Garcia, an epidemiologist and the spokesman of a public health association, warned that talk of treating COVID-19 as an endemic illness at this stage was “creating false hope.”**

“We are indeed moving towards the virus becoming more endemic, but we cannot say we have already reached that status,” said Marco Cavaleri, head of the European Medicines Agency's (EMA) vaccination strategy.

**There is no numerical threshold that distinguishes between an epidemic and a disease that is endemic, Garcia told AFP.**

**[I don't recall that there ever really has been a NUMBER that qualifies something as endemic on its own. Here are three definitions of the adjective endemic:**

- 1. Prevalent in or limited to a particular locality, region, or people.**
- 2. Native to or limited to a certain region.**
- 3. Common in or inherent to an enterprise or situation.**

**It would seem that the COV might fit in all of these if you consider the entire world a region. – rdb]**

“An epidemic is when there is a very significant outbreak of cases, above the normal, which is what we have experienced since the beginning of 2020,” he said.

“And endemic diseases may have a seasonal trend but do not put pressure on the health system.”

Nor is it a foregone conclusion that the virus will evolve to cause less harm.

“Future severity remains a big unknown. There is no law dictating that a virus must become milder over time,”

Antoine Flahault, director of Geneva's Institute of Global Health, wrote on Twitter.

“It is very hard to predict the evolution of virulence.”



*A healthcare worker tends to a Covid-19 patient at the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of the Bellvitge University Hospital in Barcelona on January 19, 2022. (Josep Lago / AFP)*

When COVID-19 becomes endemic, “most people who become infected will have mild symptoms,” Garcia said.

**[That isn't really part of the endemic definition that I learned. – rdb]** “There will be a few who suffer complications that mean they end up in hospital and die,” he added.

“But you'll never see one in four intensive care beds occupied by COVID-19 patients, not even five percent of them. Cases will probably be handled by primary care.”

In Spain, more than 23 percent of intensive care beds are

taken up by COVID patients and more than 91,000 people have died since the pandemic first took hold in March 2020.

Of that number, 2,610 died between December 17 and January 18.

Some healthcare professionals have backed the Spanish government's approach.

“Let's stop visiting and testing healthy people with mild symptoms, or tracking and testing their contacts, let's abandon self-isolation and quarantine,” urged a recent article by SemFYC, which represents around 19,000 family medicine specialists.

“All these activities... have been rendered meaningless with acquired immunity (both through infection and through vaccination) and the arrival of Omicron,” it said. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/spain-leads-call-for-covid-19-to-be-treated-like-flu/> **[Working diligently to keep the narrative going. - rdb]**

## **Is COVID-19 retreating in the US? Data paints encouraging scenario**

*COVID-19 infections have decreased in 19 states plus Washington, DC and Puerto Rico.*

*By REUTERS Published: JANUARY 21, 2022 19:02*

**New coronavirus cases are falling in parts of the United States hit hardest by the fast-spreading Omicron variant, according to a Reuters analysis of public health data, offering an early indication the virus might once again be in retreat.**

**COVID-19 infections have decreased in 19 states plus Washington, DC and Puerto Rico**, an analysis of the past week through Thursday compared with the prior week showed.

In the Northeast, which saw some of the highest case loads during the latest surge, infections are down 40% week-over-week.

**"Certainly it bodes well for us in terms of the trajectory of Omicron," said Wafaa El-Sadr, a professor of epidemiology and medicine at Columbia University** in New York City.

The **drop was more modest at the national level**, with new reported COVID-19 cases down 7% during the same time period, according to the Reuters tally, as Omicron surges in some other parts of the country.

**COVID-19 data often lag a few days behind the actual state** of affairs.

**In the Midwest, cases climbed 11% over the past seven days** compared with the previous week, and were up 2% in the South, although the increase has slowed considerably in recent weeks. Western states saw a 3% week-over-week drop in new infections, according to the tally.

**Nationally, new cases are averaging a still-high 738,000 a day, down from a peak of 805,000** on Jan. 15.

Deaths, which usually lag new infections by about three weeks and are occurring primarily among the unvaccinated, are averaging more than 2,000 a day, up 50% from the start of the month. That is highest average number of COVID-19 deaths since the end of September, but lower than the record of 3,300 lives lost a day in January 2021.

COVID hospitalizations, also a lagging indicator, set a record on Thursday at 152,746, according to the Reuters tally, but have been showing signs of stabilizing at around 150,000 over the past week.

*'NOT OUT OF THE WOODS'*

**"We have to be cognizant that we're not out of the woods, that there's a glimmer of hope**, there is light at the end of the tunnel," El-Sadr said. "That light is closer or further away based on who you are and where you happen to be."

Many hospital systems across the country are still struggling to cope with the Omicron-driven surge. Last week, the administration of President Joe Biden said it was sending military health workers to hospitals in six US states to help fight the deluge of cases and staff shortages.

The federal government also recently began providing Americans with access to free at-home COVID-19 tests and will soon make millions of N95 masks available after Biden incurred criticism that he was not devoting enough efforts beyond vaccines to fight the pandemic .

The rapid spread of Omicron over the winter holidays forced many Americans to put the brakes on plans for a gradual return to normal life as the United States entered its third pandemic year. **MORE - <https://www.jpost.com/health-and-wellness/article-694203>**

## **Billionaire accused of 'hate & sedition' faces boycott**

*A US billionaire's business is facing boycotts after reports claim he wrote "big checks" to "challenge" Joe Biden's victory*

*21 Jan, 2022 18:21*

**Dick Uihlein is facing calls for a boycott of his multinational shipping supplies company Uline, after recent financial disclosures revealed he gave millions to right-wing groups seeking to challenge President Joe Biden's 2020 victory against Donald Trump.**

**The donations were made through Uihlein's nonprofit, the Ed Uihlein Family Foundation, according to documents first published by the watchdog the Center for Media and Democracy and later highlighted by the Daily Beast.**

**Uihlein donated over \$1 million to the Conservative Partnership Institute**, an organization of which former chief of staff Mark Meadows is a senior partner. Its senior legal fellow and the chair of its Election Integrity Network is Trump campaign attorney Cleta Mitchell.

**Other groups funded by the billionaire include well-known Republican causes such as the Federalist Society, Judicial Watch, and Turning Point USA.** The Daily Beast notes that Federalist Society members include scholars and activists who helped *"corrode public trust in election results"* with their statements on the 2020 race, while Judicial Watch [challenged](#) the actual results. Former President Trump continues to insist the election was fraudulent, but has so far provided no official proof of his assertions.



**Worth in the region of \$4 billion, Uihlein is one of the GOP's top donors, along with his wife Elizabeth, and supports the right-leaning media, which the outlet says amplified uncertainty about the veracity of the election** results in the wake of Biden's victory. Platforms that received support included The Federalist, The American Conservative, and Sons of Liberty, which were gifted between \$25,000 and \$750,000 each.

A donation of over \$700,000 to the Center for Security Policy think tank was also highlighted. The Southern Poverty Law Center has deemed it "*a conspiracy-oriented mouthpiece for the growing anti-Muslim movement.*"

**Uihlein's grant-giving habits have made him a pariah among liberal activists**, some of whom have taken to calling for a boycott of Uline, which employs around 7,000 people.

The billionaire is funding "*hate and sedition,*" Kyle Herrig, the president of Accountable.US – a nonpartisan, progressive organization that exposes corruption and holds government officials and corporate special interests accountable – told the Daily Beast.

I stopped using ULINE years ago and I chuck their catalogs instantly whenever I see them. Don't give this fascist another penny of your money. <https://t.co/WDNw3WQ2hy>

— jon rosenberg 🗨️ (@jonrosenberg) [January 20, 2022](#)

I'm currently using ULINE. Since I saw this, I'm no longer going to buy their boxes and shipping supplies for my fire alarm company anymore. Thanks for the warning. #BoycottULINE <https://t.co/beKXisNdti>

— Hunter Cullen 🗨️ 🗨️ 🗨️ (@HunterJCullen) [January 20, 2022](#)

Twitter users, meanwhile, fired up by the revelations of Uihlein's support of organizations and outlets that called into question the election, have accused him of being a "*fascist*" and supporting a "*coup.*"

When you buy Uline products, you're financing the ongoing coup against our democracy.

[#BoycottUlinehttps://t.co/3pz9vrLI6D](https://t.co/3pz9vrLI6D)

— Mark Jacob (@MarkJacob16) [January 20, 2022](#)

<https://www.rt.com/news/546784-uline-donations-election-trump-biden/>

**[The left keeps screaming but I hope they finally realize they are totally 'misguided' – rdb]**

## **Commentary:**

### **The Russia-China Axis of Authoritarianism: Part I**

#### ***Testing Western Resolve in Ukraine and Taiwan***

by [Soeren Kern](#) *January 21, 2022 at 5:00 am*

As Russia continues its troop build-up along the border with Ukraine, China has markedly increased its military activity near Taiwan. The twin geopolitical flashpoints, separated by 8,000 kilometers (5,000 miles), are raising concerns that Russia and China could coordinate or conduct concurrent military offensives that the United States and its allies may find difficult to stop.

A failure to deter Russia and China — deterrence, especially military pre-positioning near the area under threat, is the least costly way to avoid war — would deal a potentially crushing blow to the post-World War II liberal international order. That system, whose principles and norms — including adherence to the rule of law, respect for human rights and the promotion of liberal democracy, as well as preserving the sanctity of territorial sovereignty and existing boundaries — has regulated the conduct of international relations for nearly 80 years.

Analysts warn that the crisis in Ukraine, which China presumably is closely watching, may represent a turning point in world politics. An invasion of Ukraine would open the door for Russia to extend its military tentacles to countries in the Baltics and Eastern Europe. It could also embolden China to invade Taiwan, which would allow Beijing to set its sights on economic powerhouses Japan and South Korea, as well as on other regional allies of the United States.

Observers worry that Russia and China — so-called revisionist authoritarian powers seeking to establish a post-Western global order that extols autocracy over democracy — may leverage control over Ukraine and Taiwan to carve out exclusive spheres of influence in their respective parts of the globe.

If they succeed in dividing the world into zones of exclusive control, Russia and China would effectively collapse the Western global order and restore the unstable international system of great power rivalry that existed before — and ended with — the two world wars of the twentieth century.

Analysts are divided over the question of whether Russia and China ultimately will use military force to achieve their territorial ambitions, but nearly all agree that if they do, it will be because Moscow and Beijing feel emboldened by their perception that the West — led by the United States and Europe — is weaker and more divided than at any other point in recent memory.

#### **Russia and Ukraine**

A massive build-up of Russian troops along the Ukrainian border has been fueling speculation of an imminent

invasion. In recent months, Russia has deployed at least 100,000 troops on Ukraine's eastern border, [according](#) to satellite images. An American intelligence document obtained by the *Washington Post* [assessed](#) that Russia is planning a multi-front offensive involving nearly 200,000 troops. The unclassified document, which included satellite photos, showed Russian forces amassing in four locations near Ukraine. Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksii Reznikov has [warned](#) that Russia will be ready to invade in late January 2022.

Analysts are divided on what is motivating Putin. Some believe that he is using the Ukraine issue to deflect from domestic problems, including runaway [inflation](#) and a divisive push for Covid vaccine passports. Others say that Putin is [fixated](#) on restoring Russian control over Ukraine and other former members of the former Soviet Union.

In July 2021, Putin penned a 7,000-word essay — "On the Historical Unity of Russians and Ukrainians" — in which he [outlined](#) the basis for his claims against Ukraine. He openly questioned the legitimacy of Ukraine's borders and argued that modern-day Ukraine occupies "the lands of historical Russia." He concluded: "I am confident that true sovereignty of Ukraine is possible only in partnership with Russia."

Putin's essay was variously [characterized](#) as "[a final ultimatum](#)," "[a masterclass in disinformation](#)," and "[one step short of a declaration of war](#)."

British Defense Secretary Ben Wallace, in a hard-hitting article, [described](#) Putin's arguments as "short on accuracy and long on contradictions." He [added](#):

"President Putin's article completely ignores the wishes of the citizens of Ukraine, while evoking that same type of ethnonationalism which played out across Europe for centuries and still has the potential to awaken the same destructive forces of ancient hatred."

Ukrainian MP Oleksiy Goncharenko [said](#):

"Putin's article claims to be about history, but in reality it is about the future and not the past. Ukraine holds the key to Putin's dreams of restoring Russia's great power status. He is painfully aware that without Ukraine, this will be impossible."

"Putin's essay does not actually contain anything new. Indeed, we have already heard these same arguments many times before. However, his article does help clarify that the current conflict is not about control over Crimea or eastern Ukraine's Donbas region; it is a war for the whole of Ukraine. Putin makes it perfectly clear that his goal is to keep Ukraine firmly within the Russian sphere of influence and to prevent Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration."

Max Seddon, Moscow correspondent for the *Financial Times*, [wrote](#):

"Analysts say Putin's desire to rid Ukraine of Western influence is underpinned by a conviction that it is an inalienable part of the 'Russian world,' a Moscow-centric sphere of influence rooted in the Soviet Union and the Tsarist empire."

"Putin has described the collapse of the USSR ... as 'the greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the 20th century' and has questioned the grounds on which Ukraine broke off from Russia."

"Following Russia's annexation of Crimea in 2014, Putin likened the Ukrainian peninsula, where Vladimir the Great — the first Christian ruler of Rus, a medieval state ruled from Kyiv — was baptized in 988AD, as 'Russia's Temple Mount' — a notion that has no theological basis but cast Putin as the protector of Russians everywhere."

Pavlo Klimkin, Ukraine's former foreign minister, [added](#):

"Putin has a sense of mission on reinstalling a new kind of empire. It's sitting very deep in his mind. Any separate path of Ukraine would be highly damaging to the Russian mythology."

Tinatin Khidasheli, former defense minister of Georgia, [warned](#):

"Putin's apparent indifference towards Western warnings is understandable. He has been hearing the same empty promises of decisive action, typically accompanied by expressions of grave concern, ever since the Russian invasion of Georgia in 2008...."

"Firmly worded Western statements of condemnation did not deter Putin from seizing and annexing Crimea. Nor have they succeeded in facilitating the withdrawal of Russian forces from eastern Ukraine or Moldova...."

"We are currently witnessing the logical continuation of this historical process, with Russia's ambitions now extending to all the countries of the former Warsaw Pact."

"Putin's recent list of security demands makes clear that he seeks to reassert Russian domination throughout the post-Soviet space. This will enhance Russia's claims to superpower status while exposing the inability of the Western powers to keep their promises. Crucially, it will also allow Putin to safeguard his own political future...."

"None of this was inevitable. Like all bullies, Putin retreats when confronted by genuine strength and advances only when he senses weakness.... In order to cut Putin back down to size, all that is necessary is for Western actions to finally match Western words."

Swedish scholar Anders Åslund [concluded](#):

"Make no mistake: by denying Ukraine's right to independence, Putin is setting the stage for war. The West must

quickly decide what it is willing to do to prevent it."

### **China and Taiwan**

While Russia has been threatening Ukraine, China has significantly increased its military and diplomatic intimidation of Taiwan, an island that, since 1949, has been governed independently of mainland China.

Taiwan considers itself to be a sovereign state, but China says it is a breakaway province that will be taken by force if necessary. In an October 2021 speech, Chinese President Xi Jinping [vowed](#) that Taiwan would be "reunified" with China:

"No one should underestimate the Chinese people's staunch determination, firm will, and strong ability to defend national sovereignty and territorial integrity. The historical task of the complete reunification of the motherland must be fulfilled — and will definitely be fulfilled."

In July 2021, in a speech marking the 100th birthday of the ruling Chinese Communist Party, Xi [promised](#) to "smash" any Taiwanese attempts at formal independence:

"Solving the Taiwan question and realizing the complete reunification of the motherland are the unswerving historical tasks of the Chinese Communist Party and the common aspiration of all Chinese people. All sons and daughters of China, including compatriots on both sides of the Taiwan Strait, must work together and move forward in solidarity, resolutely smashing any 'Taiwan independence' plots."

Previously, Xi [said](#) that Taiwan "must and will be" reunited with China. He also [warned](#) that China reserved the right to use force to bring Taiwan to heel.

Beijing has reinforced its hostile rhetoric by sending record numbers of fighter jets and nuclear-capable bombers into Taiwan's air defense identification zone (ADIZ). An ADIZ, which extends 12 nautical miles from a country's coast, [serves](#) as a buffer between international airspace and a country's territorial airspace. An ADIZ allows countries to monitor and respond to aircraft before they actually enter their airspace.

The number of large-scale incursions — so-called [gray-zone warfare](#), which entails using irregular tactics to exhaust a foe without actually resorting to open combat — notably increased after U.S. President Joe Biden took office. Thomas J. Shattuck, deputy director of the Asia Program at the US-based Foreign Policy Research Institute, [noted](#):

"After President Joseph Biden took office, the incursions became more provocative in nature, and the use of fighter jets and nuclear-capable bombers increased significantly throughout 2021. During Biden's first days in office, the PLA conducted two consecutive days of exercises in Taiwan's southwestern ADIZ, which simulated an attack against the nearby USS Theodore Roosevelt carrier strike group. This two-day exercise, which included 28 aircraft, marked the highest number of aircraft to enter Taiwan's ADIZ since September 2020. During Biden's first month in office, fighter jets and nuclear-capable bombers were used in ten incursions — a significant bump in usage from 2020."

Analysts are divided over the question of whether China will invade Taiwan. Some argue China does not yet possess the naval and logistics capability successfully to launch an all-out invasion across the choppy waters of the Taiwan Strait, which create a natural moat. Others note that an invasion would be a highly risky gambit; a failure would damage the prestige of the Chinese Communist Party and possibly lead to its downfall.

In an extensive *Reuters* report — "[The Battle for Taiwan](#)" — analysts David Lague and Maryanne Murray interviewed two dozen military planners from China, Taiwan, the United States, Japan and Australia on their views of how China may try to seize Taiwan, and how the United States might stop it.

"Chinese control of Taiwan would dramatically reinforce the Communist Party's prestige at home and eliminate the island as a viable model of a democratic alternative to authoritarian Party rule. It would also give China a foothold in the so-called first island chain, the line which runs through the string of islands from the Japanese archipelago to Taiwan, the Philippines and Borneo, which enclose China's coastal seas.

"For Beijing, success would translate into a commanding strategic position in Asia, undermining the security of Japan and South Korea, and allowing China to project power into the Western Pacific. But Beijing also has an incentive to be cautious: If America and its allies intervened against a takeover attempt, they could inflict heavy losses on an untested Chinese military that has not fired a shot in anger for decades. Defeat could weaken the Party's hold on power....

"For the American alliance, a Chinese takeover of Taiwan would be a devastating blow. At a stroke, the United States would lose its status as the pre-eminent power in Asia, according to most U.S. and regional military experts. If America were unwilling or unable to defend Taiwan, its network of allies in the Asia-Pacific — including Tokyo, Seoul and Canberra — would overnight be far more vulnerable to military and economic coercion from China. Some might switch allegiance to Beijing, analysts say. Some might seek nuclear weapons to boost their own security."

### **Russia and China**

Many observers agree that China is closely watching the U.S. response to Russia's activities in Ukraine, and that the challenges posed by Russia and China are a test of American credibility.

In an interview with the *New York Times*, retired U.S. Navy Admiral James Stavridis, the former supreme allied



commander at NATO, [noted](#):

"Vladimir Putin has invaded two democratic neighbors in just over a decade. Letting him do it a third time would set the global system back decades. Appeasement does not work any better now than it worked for Neville Chamberlain in the late 1930s. China will be watching U.S. support to Ukraine, and it will inform their calculus regarding Taiwan."

In a statement, U.S. Representative Mike McCaul of Texas, the ranking Republican on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, [said](#):

"I strongly urge President Biden not to make concessions at the expense of our strategic partner Ukraine in response to the Putin regime's provocative military buildup. This would not only fail to de-escalate tensions, it would also embolden Vladimir Putin and his fellow autocrats by demonstrating the United States will surrender in the face of saber-rattling. Particularly in the aftermath of the disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan and the Nord Stream 2 capitulation, U.S. credibility from Kyiv to Taipei cannot withstand another blow of this nature."

On December 15, Putin and Xi, in a video call, [vowed](#) to defend each other's interests against the United States and its allies. Yuri Ushakov, a foreign policy adviser to Putin, [said](#) that the Russian president had told his "old friend" Xi about the "mounting threats to Russia's national interests from the US and the NATO bloc, which consistently move their military infrastructure close to the Russian borders." Xi reportedly [replied](#) that he sympathized with Putin and "especially stated his support."

Ushakov [added](#) that Xi said China and Russia now had a relationship that was stronger than an alliance. "At present, certain international forces are arbitrarily interfering in the internal affairs of China and Russia under the guise of democracy and human rights, and brutally trampling on international law and the norms of international relations," Xi said, [according](#) to Chinese state television.

### Select Commentary

In a report — "[Will Russia Invade Ukraine? Moscow's Threat to European Security](#)" — published by the UK-based Henry Jackson Society, Ukraine expert Taras Kuzio [warned](#):

"A weak Western response to a Russian invasion of Ukraine would send the wrong signal to China. After all, 'Putin speaks of Moscow's eternal bond with Kyiv in nearly the same way that Chinese leaders demand reunification with Taiwan.' With Russians and the Chinese viewing Ukraine and Taiwan respectively as part of their homelands, whatever the West does — or does not do — in response to a Russian invasion of Ukraine will be eagerly watched in Beijing. China supports Russia's ultimatums. A 'potential nightmare scenario' in 2022 would be 'Russia invading Ukraine and China launching a military campaign to take back Taiwan.'"

Michael Schuman, a China scholar at the US-based Atlantic Council, in an essay — "[China is Watching Ukraine With a Lot of Interest](#)" — wrote that the Ukraine crisis is a crucial test of American global power, and that the United States is facing the "stiffest challenge" to its global primacy since the fall of the Soviet Union:

"How Xi interprets (or worse, misinterprets) the outcome of the Ukraine standoff could influence whether and how China tries to reunify with Taiwan, and thus has implications for the security and stability of East Asia...."

"The fate of Ukraine has become intimately entangled in this renewed big-power competition.... At stake is the balance of power between the U.S. and Russia in Eastern Europe. The outcome, though, could reverberate well beyond the region, and well into the future, affecting whether American power will remain strong enough to maintain peace and advance democracy — or whether the world's autocracies will claw back clout that they lost decades ago."

"Leaders such as Putin and Xi may see an opportunity. 'The problem for Biden is that their view is that they should test him at all times, and they are. And he has so far not really passed those tests with any distinction,' Danielle Pletka, a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, told me. 'This is a very important period.'"

"Xi may believe that Taiwan is drifting in a direction harmful to China's national interests, just as Ukraine has strayed ever further from Moscow's orbit. Taiwan's independent-minded president, Tsai Ing-wen, has tried to reduce the economy's reliance on China and strengthen ties to the U.S. and other countries.' Washington, too, has sought closer links. Officially, the U.S. still upholds a 'one China' policy and does not formally recognize the Taipei government. But it's not hard to discern why Xi might think otherwise...."

"In light of all this, Xi will be scrutinizing the situation in Ukraine for useful intelligence about which tools Biden can and ultimately will employ to pressure Russia to back off, how much he is willing to give up in a potential compromise with Putin, and how effectively the U.S. president works with allies and even his own diplomats. China's leader, in other words, will be looking to measure the level of American resolve...."

"Ukraine and Taiwan both show how easily U.S. weakness — or even the mere perception of weakness — could unravel the strained networks and alliances that support the American world order and usher in a new era of global conflict and instability.... The Putins and Xis of the world are probing for those weaknesses, watching the results, and calculating their next move."

Analyst Seth Cropsey, in commentary titled "[The Two-Headed Fight for Ukraine and Taiwan](#)," wrote that Russia and China are working together to upend the existing world order:

"Although separated by geography, Ukraine and Taiwan occupy similar positions in the Russian and Chinese strategic experience and historical imagination. Capturing each is essential to all other strategic objectives. For Russia, taking Ukraine would secure its hold on the Black Sea and open other pressure points against vulnerable NATO members Romania and Bulgaria. For the Chinese Communist Party, seizing Taiwan would allow the country to break out of the First Island Chain and conduct offensive operations against Japan, the Philippines and even U.S. territories in the Central Pacific.

"Historically, post-Soviet Russia's ruling oligarchy has cultivated intense grievances against independent Ukraine. It is a living reminder that Slavic peoples need not live under one flag. Taiwan is proof that Chinese-speaking peoples are fully capable of governing themselves. The modern Communist Party stems from a brutal revolutionary regime that savaged the Chinese people, murdering millions through its messianic ambitions and sheer incompetence. Only by consuming Taiwan can China confirm its superiority. Given the political capital the Communist Party has invested in subduing Taiwan, it may no longer have a way to de-escalate even if it wanted to.

"The clearest obstacle to Russian and Chinese escalation is Ukraine's and Taiwan's affiliations with the U.S. and its allies....

"Roughly concurrent offensive operations in two hemispheres would overstress American and allied resources.... The U.S. must begin thinking about its strategic challenges globally, not in regional segments. This is a contest for Eurasia — and thus for the world."

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<https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/18158/russia-china-axis>

## **Why Was Texas temple terrorist ever on US soil?**

*By Josh Hammer Published January 21, 2022*

There are many lessons to be drawn from last Saturday's hostage crisis at Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas. First, reports that Malik Faisal Akram's antisemitic hostage-taking had disrupted Beth Israel's livestreamed Sabbath services proved more prescient than those reporters perhaps realized. Orthodox Judaism does not permit electronic streaming on the Sabbath, and it was revealed that Beth Israel is a Reform temple.

This is relevant because Reform Judaism is not merely theologically liberal in the extreme, discarding the binding authority of Jewish law and placing an obtuse focus on the concept of "tikkun olam" ("repair of the world"), but is so uniformly politically progressive as to be a de facto wing of the Democratic Party itself.

Sure enough, Itamar Gelbman, a conservative former congregant at Beth Israel, wrote a viral Facebook post divulging that the rabbi had denounced Israel as an "apartheid state" and precluded congregants from concealed carrying. This is by now old hat to ponder, but still: At a time of rising antisemitism at home and abroad, when will liberal Jews ever learn to protect themselves?

Second, the attack reaffirmed the sordid reality that, when Jews are targeted in America, elites will dwell on the attackers' identity. When white supremacists committed atrocities at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh and the Chabad of Poway, California, they faced unanimous nationwide condemnation.

The New York Times even published a victory lap op-ed from the Chabad rabbi. But when Black nationalists of the antisemitic "Black Hebrew Israelites" cult killed innocents in Jersey City, New Jersey, and took a machete to a Chanukah gathering in Monsey, New York, just a few weeks after, the comparative media silence was deafening.

In Colleyville, the culprit was a British national of Pakistani Muslim background. He spouted "Protocols of the Elders of Zion"-style conspiratorial nonsense and was attempting to free the viciously antisemitic Aafia Siddiqui, otherwise known as "Lady al-Qaeda." Nonetheless, defying parody, FBI Special Agent in Charge Matt DeSarno initially asserted, "We are continuing to work to find a motive." The corporate media and even federal law enforcement have their narratives to peddle; we Jews just want to be protected.

Third, it is well past time to stop treating the Council on American-Islamic Relations with anything other than ridicule and contempt. The evidence is incontrovertible that CAIR was founded in 1994 as a Muslim Brotherhood/Hamas-tied outfit. The United Arab Emirates, one of the U.S.'s greatest Sunni Arab allies, formally designated CAIR a terrorist organization in 2014. And CAIR was named as an unindicted co-conspirator in the 2008 Holy Land Foundation trial, the largest terror financing case in Department of Justice history.

Here, the Colleyville attack transpired in the aftermath of a vile speech in which Zahra Billoo, head of CAIR's San Francisco branch, called even "polite Zionists" and those in "Zionist synagogues" the "enemies" of Islam. CAIR has also held numerous rallies for Siddiqui's release, helping to gin up the kind of hysteria that might lead a delusional British

Pakistani Muslim to take some random Jews hostage as a "bargaining chip" of sorts to somehow free a locked-up Jew-hating al-Qaeda sympathizer. How much more evidence of CAIR's misdeeds do we need before shunning the group once and for all?

Finally, there is the always-thorny issue of immigration, which has been the least-discussed Colleyville lesson to date. It is a shameful failure of U.S. immigration policy that a man such as Akram, who was apparently so unassimilated into Western civilization that he deemed it prudent to take a gaggle of Texas Jews hostage as "leverage" to somehow free an entirely unrelated terrorist (one conjures up images here of how Akram must have actually believed in an "Elders"-style "Supreme Jewish Council" with the power to "free" Siddiqui), was able to enter U.S. soil.

As a British national, Akram was the benefit of the U.S. Visa Waiver Program. As CBS News reported: "His entrance into U.S. was approved by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Electronic System for Travel Authorization ... at New York City's John F. Kennedy International Airport. Tourism visas are not required for British travelers planning to stay in the United States for less than three months."

Akram had an extensive rap sheet back in the U.K. and had been previously investigated by MI5, the British security service, for possible jihadi radicalization.

Yet he did not appear on any U.S. terror watch lists and appears to have sailed right through the lax rules in place for the Visa Waiver Program. That he was able to do so points to a longer-running problem, which is the failure of American authorities to sufficiently vet every single person attempting to step on our soil.

As the 9/11 Commission's report on terrorist travel wrote back in 2004: "It is perhaps obvious to state that terrorists cannot plan and carry out attacks in the United States if they are unable to enter the country ... Indeed, even after 19 hijackers demonstrated the relative ease of obtaining a U.S. visa and gaining admission into the United States, border security still is not considered a cornerstone of national security policy."

As easy as it usually still is to obtain a U.S. visa, it is that much easier to get here via the Visa Waiver Program. That program should now be heavily scrutinized, have any and all of its loopholes tightened and quite possibly be abolished in its entirety.

There is no clearer and more straightforward way to preventing more Malik Faisal Akrams from entering the country.

<https://www.jewishworldreview.com/0122/hammer012122.php>

## **Imperative, Ideologically Inspired Immigration Reform or Impending Self-Immolation**

By [Sidney Secular](#)/January 21st, 2022

The "immigration invasion" has not been treated as a priority since it began in earnest in 1965 with the Hart-Celler Act\* [\*see below] that resulted in the "quality" of immigrants going down while the quantity of those "immigrating" went up. Of course, this result turned sharply against the interests of the Historic American Nation as these armies of "immigrants" became literal invaders both in the case of those who were legally "imported" and, worse, the huge number of those who were permitted to ignore the new version of American immigration.

[\*The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965, also known as the Hart-Celler Act and more recently as the 1965 Immigration Act was passed by the 89th Congress and signed by Lyndon Johnson on October 3rd, 1965. The law abolished the National Origins Formula that had been the basis of immigration policy since the 1920s, removing the defacto discrimination against Southern and Eastern Europeans and non-white Third World peoples. The policy was established in the 1920s to preserve American homogeneity. During the 1960s, at the height of the Civil Rights Movement, it came under attack as being "racially discriminatory" and with the help of Johnson, Senator Philip Hart and Congressman Emanuel Celler introduced the Hart-Celler Act. This Act has significantly altered immigration demographics in the United States (and not for the better – SS).]

Even as the situation produced by this cultural Trojan Horse worsened, the indifference of our "leaders" remained the same neither did the matter seem to garner much attention from politicians and the mainstream media while some churches enthusiastically contributed to the onslaught. Those who saw the "writing on the wall" vis a vis our national unity were tagged with the "race card" because most of the invaders were not white. That same race card was used to foist a guilt complex upon the citizenry to thwart any belief that the mass invasion from the Third World might possibly be a bad thing for America. Also, as Americans had become increasingly rootless over decades, they were less able to discern or, in the alternative, were oblivious to the phenomenon of intentional population displacement that had taken root in the land. **MUCH MORE** - <https://newswithviews.com/imperative-ideologically-inspired-immigration-reform-or-impending-self-immolation/>

## **The Absolute Right of Informed Consent**



By [Edwin Vieira Jr.](#)/January 21st, 2022

At the center of public attention throughout the United States today are various “mandates” from public officials and even private parties aimed at forcing unwilling Americans to accept inoculations with so-called “vaccines” being touted as the best possible protections against infections with the “Covid-19” “virus” and its apparently endless “variants”. Of no little concern is that the people aggressively pushing these “mandates” are turning blind eyes to the adverse short-term reactions suffered by countless numbers of Americans already injected with these “vaccines”—and appear to be even more recklessly indifferent to whatever long-term dangers these “vaccinations” may pose in the unknowable future, not only to all Americans subjected to them, but even to their un-“vaccinated” countrymen. The most worrisome aspect of this situation, however, is that, although these “mandates” harken back to a dark period of very recent human history, they also confirm the old adage that “the only thing one learns from history is that no one ever learns anything from history”.

**A-** The essential lesson taught by relatively recent events derives from what has come to be called “the Nuremberg Code”. Immediately after the defeat of Germany in 1945, as the result of the exposure of “medical experiments” coercively conducted on human subjects by “Nazi doctors”, the Nuremberg Tribunals established that, with respect to such experimentation, “certain basic principles must be observed in order to satisfy moral, ethical, and legal concepts”. The very first and most important tenet of the Code is that

\* \* \* [t]he voluntary consent of the human subject is absolutely essential.

This means that the person involved should have the legal capacity to give consent; should be so situated as to be able to exercise free power of choice, without the intervention of any element of force, fraud, deceit, duress, over-reaching, or other ulterior form of constraint or coercion; and should have sufficient knowledge and comprehension of the elements of the subject matter involved as to enable him to make an understanding and enlightened decision. This latter element requires that before the acceptance of an affirmative decision by the experimental subject there should be made known to him the nature, duration, and purpose of the experiment; the method and means by which it is to be conducted; all inconveniences and hazards reasonably to be expected; and the effects upon his health or person which may possibly come from his participation in the experiment.

The duty and responsibility for ascertaining the quality of the consent rests upon each individual who initiates, directs or engages in the experiment. It is a personal duty and responsibility which may not be delegated to another with impunity.

*See Trials of War Criminals before the Nuremberg Military Tribunals under Control Council Law No. 10, Nuremberg, October 1946–April 1949 (Washington, D.C.: United States Government Printing Office, 1949-1953), Volume 2, at 181-182.*

Sixteen “Nazi doctors” who had violated this “duty and responsibility” were tried for and convicted of, not mere medical malpractice, but rather crimes against humanity—with seven of them sentenced to death by hanging, and in due course executed.

As human history goes, these events happened just yesterday. Nonetheless, in certain circles in the United States today the rather stark lesson they teach has apparently already been consigned to Orwell’s “memory hole”. For “medical experiments”—from “lockdowns”; to “masking”; to “social distancing”; to “warp-speed” development of so-called “vaccines” against “Covid-19” based upon radically new and unproven technologies; to suppression of safe, effective, and inexpensive alternative treatments; to censoring of dissident medical practitioners and other scientists; and now to “‘vaccine’ mandates” imposed in this country since early 2020 through a concert of action among public-health bureaucrats and elected officeholders at every level of the federal system, certain pharmaceutical companies, the big “mainstream” media and Internet platforms, and even private businesses of all sorts—are proceeding apace, with scant evidence that anyone with “official” standing or influence intends or will prove able to put a pause, let alone a stop, to them.

**B-** In light of the source, the subject, and the seriousness of the Nuremberg Code, this situation is as truly ominous as it is amazing. For the Code is not an historically bounded set of principles applicable only to “medical experiments” performed specifically by “Nazi doctors” in the *Nazi* era. Rather, it defends the integrity of the human person against the assertions of *any* régime, at *any* time, that reduction of *any* human being to the level of an experimental animal for *any* reason is a matter merely of political expediency, whether the latter be cloaked in the mantle of “science” (in general) or of “medicine” (in particular).

It is easy enough to establish that the foremost “duty and responsibility” of the Nuremberg Code was not invented and applied as a compendium of “moral, ethical, and legal concepts” for the first time in human history as a product of mere “victors’ justice” in Germany by the Allied powers in the immediate aftermath of World War II. Quite the contrary.

**1,** The Nuremberg Code is an obvious extrapolation of some basic precepts of Natural Law. For, in general “[n]atural laws are those, which mankind are obliged to observe from their nature and constitution”, and specifically “[t]he rights

which a man has to his life, to his liberty, to his health, to freedom from pain, to the integrity of his body \* \* \* are natural ones". Thomas Rutherford, *Institutes of Natural Law: Being the Substance of a Course of Lectures on Grotius De Jure Belli Et Pacis* (Cambridge, England: J. Bentham, 1754 and 1756), Volume the First, Chapter I, Section V, at 8; and Chapter II, Section VIII, at 36.

2, Not surprisingly, then, the "moral, ethical, and legal concepts" which the Nuremberg Code embodies in its reflection of Natural Law are inextricably part and parcel of America's fundamental laws. To wit—

(a) The Declaration of Independence—the foundational human law of the entire American system at the present time, no less than in 1776—invokes "the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God" as "entitl[ing]" Americans "to assume among the powers of the earth" their own "separate and equal station". Inasmuch as "the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God"—and nothing else—"entitle[d] the [Founders]" to that "station", and were explicitly invoked and relied upon by them for that purpose, nothing which their descendants do in and as a consequence of that "station" today may violate those "Laws".

Going further, the Declaration explained that, in order to "secure" the "certain unalienable Rights" with which "all men \* \* \* are endowed by their Creator", "the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God" authorize Americans to "institute[ ]" "Governments" which "deriv[e] their just powers from the consent of the governed". Therefore, even the American people as a whole cannot "consent" to delegate "[un]just powers"—that is, "powers" which offend "the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God"—to any supposed "Government". Indeed, a political establishment purporting to exercise "[un]just powers"—from *any* source supposedly derived—would as a consequence and to the extent of that misbehavior not be a "Government" at all. Being "[un]just", those purported "powers" would be illegitimate. And because of their illegitimacy no one would be entitled to exercise them, nor would anyone be required to obey any purported exercise of them, whether legislative, executive, administrative, or judicial in nature.

As has been pointed out, the gist of the Nuremberg Code's first "duty and responsibility" was a component of "the Law[ ] of Nature" throughout Western civilization long before the Declaration of Independence invoked that "Law[ ]". For that reason, the substance of that principle bound even the entirety of the American people in their capacity as the human source of "Government" in 1776, continues to bind all Americans in that respect today, and limits their present "Government" to the exercise of "just powers" consistent therewith. Any denial or disregard of that "duty and responsibility" by contemporary public officials necessarily implies their arrogation to themselves of "[un]just powers", which no public officials can ever be authorized or allowed to exercise, because no people can ever be entitled to delegate such "powers" to any "Government" or officials thereof.

The Declaration of Independence specifically posited that "among the[ certain unalienable Rights]" with which "all men \* \* \* are endowed by their Creator"—and which "Governments are instituted among Men" "to secure", as those institutions' only reason for existence—are "Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness". Plainly enough, an individual is deprived of "Life" when killed in the course of some "medical experiment" of which he becomes an unknowing or otherwise unwilling subject. No less clear, an individual is deprived of "Liberty" when coerced or cajoled to submit to a "medical experiment" by force, fear, fraud, or the lure of some favor. And an individual cannot engage in "the pursuit of Happiness" fully, or perhaps even at all, when crippled, afflicted with chronic pain, or condemned to a span of life seriously reduced as the result of a "medical experiment" in which he has been compelled or cajoled against his better judgment to participate. Self-evidently, then, Americans have not delegated—because they are utterly incapable of delegating—any "just powers" to any "Government" to inflict such effects upon anyone.

A subject's unwillingness needs to be considered because, in abstract principle, a true "Government" might possibly be delegated a carefully constrained power to perform "medical experiments" to which the individual has freely and intelligently consented. But only on that condition, strictly and severely enforced against public officials in actual practice. For, in the very nature of a "medical experiment", any adverse consequences are entirely personal to the subject alone. So he is the only party who in the exercise of logic, moral reasoning, and rational human law is entitled, and therefore who must enjoy the full legal capacity, to give (or withhold) his consent, alone and with finality.

(b) As the Preamble to the Constitution announced, "We the People \* \* \* ordain[ed] and establish[ed] this Constitution" "in Order", as one of their purposes, "to \* \* \* establish Justice". Inasmuch as under the Declaration of Independence We the People's authority to "ordain and establish" any "Government" extended in 1788, and continues unto this very day, only to the delegation of "just powers" to that "Government", no official under the Constitution can claim a prerogative, authority, or license, under any circumstances whatsoever, to exercise any "[un]just power[ ]". For, obviously, no exercise of any "[un]just power[ ]" can "establish Justice" to any degree. Rather, every such exercise, howsoever rogue public officials may struggle to rationalize it, prevents the "establish[ment of] Justice".

Presumably, the powers the Constitution delegates to the government of the United States are "just powers" in principle—provided of course that in practice they are not misconstrued or abused, and otherwise are executed for reasons

and in the manners appropriate to their purposes. And the Bill of Rights was adopted precisely to secure as much. See Resolution of the First Congress Submitting Twelve Amendments to the Constitution (March 4, 1789), in *Documents Illustrative of the Formation of the Union of the American States*, House Document No. 398, 69th Congress, 1st Session (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1927), at 1063.

(c) Nonetheless, the question remains: What are the *standards* of “Justice” according to which “just powers” are to be evaluated in their definitions and judged in their applications? Plainly enough, these are never to be found in the platforms of political parties, in the promises of political candidates, in the propaganda of political campaigns, in the plebiscites which elevate candidates to public offices, or even in the policies and practices of public officials supposedly administering the “Government” according to their conceptions of “the public interest”. For all of these are as inevitably shifting in their positions as the sands of the Sahara, and all too often as shifty in their intentions as a confidence man playing upon the gullibility of a mark.

Unfortunately, the Constitution does not spell out the standards of “Justice” according to which exercises of its “powers” (and recognition of its “disabilities”, or absences of “powers”) are to be judged, whether in the courts of law or the court of public opinion. (Apparently, the Framers believed that Americans of their time, and into the future, would already know or would be willing and able to ascertain those standards on their own.) In any event, neither in 1788 nor today could those standards be conclusively presumed to be embodied even in public officials’ arguably honest exercises of those “powers”. For a public official might be scrupulously honest, yet entirely wrong about the rectitude of his actions. Even “powers” which the Constitution defines, and perforce of those definitions limits, can be accidentally misconstrued by careless or incompetent, or intentionally abused by dishonest, officials. And complex situations may create room for doubt and debate amongst men of good will as to what some “power” actually allows. So how, in the final analysis, can anyone tell whether someone’s exposition of a presumably “just power” is capable in legal logic of “establish[ing] Justice”, or whether some official’s exercise of that “power” has in fact “establish[ed] Justice” or done the very opposite?

The answer to this question should be self-evident. In the American system, the controlling standards of “Justice” are to be found within “the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God” to which the Declaration of Independence appealed, and upon which its efficacy in positive human law is based. Both in principle in their exposition and in practice in their exercise, all “just powers” must be consistent with those supreme “Laws”. All other purported “powers”—as well as all deviations from the parameters of admittedly “just powers”—are necessarily “[un]just”, and therefor unlawful in the most fundamental sense possible.

3. Now, echoing the Declaration of Independence, the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution provides (in pertinent part) that no “person \* \* \* shall \* \* \* be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law”. And Section 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment provides (in pertinent part) that no State “shall \* \* \* deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law”. What is “due process of law”, of course, takes into account *all* sources and aspects of “law” relevant to the situation at hand.

Obviously, a “medical experiment” performed at the behest of public officials—or by private parties who are required to conduct such an “experiment” by, or are working in complicity with, those officials—can in fact deprive a subject, not only of his “Life”, but also of his “Liberty”, as well as of his “pursuit of Happiness” to the fullest degree of which he might otherwise be capable. As a pertinent example, “[t]he forcible injection of medication into a nonconsenting person’s body represents a substantial interference with that person’s liberty.” *Washington v. Harper*, 494 U.S. 210, 229 (1990). So, too, with respect to the “property” which a subject has in his own body, and through the use of which he lives his “Life” in “Liberty” and engages in his own “pursuit of Happiness”. For “[n]o right is held more sacred, or is more carefully guarded by the common law, than the right of every individual to the possession and control of his own person”. *Union Pacific Railway Company v. Botsford*, 141 U.S. 250, 251 (1891).

Obviously, too, a “medical experiment” cannot conform to any acceptable conception of “due process of law” when it denies “informed consent”, whether as to “information” or “consent” or both. For such a denial violates “the Law[ ] of Nature”, which, being the “Law[ ]” that through the Declaration of Independence subtends and justifies the Constitution of the United States (and the constitutions of every State as well), is the ultimate source and supplies the controlling substance of “due process of law”, no matter what political parties, candidates, electoral majorities, and public officials might insist to the contrary.

To like effect is the command of the Fourth Amendment that “[t]he right of the people to be secure in their persons \* \* \* against unreasonable \* \* \* seizures[ ] shall not be violated”. Every form of real or pretended “vaccination” involves a medical procedure which invades a person’s body. And the experimental nature of the present “Covid-19” “vaccines” maximizes the invasive nature of the process. Self-evidently, then, individuals are not “secure in their persons” when their own bodies can be effectively “seize[d]” through a “‘vaccine’ mandate” for a “medical experiment” the arguable “reasonable[ness]” of which will be determined, if at all, only *after* (and perhaps *long* after) the “seizures” have taken



place—and likely too long after to do anything about the adverse effects the subjects will suffer. Obviously, too, such “unreasonable \* \* \* seizure[s]” deprive the victims of “life” (possibly), “liberty” (surely), and the “property” which an individual has in his own body (also surely), “without due process of law”, in violation of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments.

Moreover, with respect to the particular “due process” of “informed consent”, the Constitution goes beyond those two Amendments, to recognize “informed consent” as an individual’s *absolute* right.

(a) “Informed consent” with respect to any matter depends upon an individual’s *personal beliefs* concerning the “information” available to him. And under the First Amendment “freedom to believe \* \* \* is *absolute*”. *Cantwell v. Connecticut*, 310 U.S. 296, 303 (1940) (emphasis supplied). One cannot enjoy the freedoms enumerated in that Amendment—namely, to exercise his religion, to speak, to publish, to assemble and associate with others in order to petition the government for redress of grievances—unless he also partakes of the freedom to believe what his religion teaches, what he himself says, what he puts out through the press, and what his petitions assert. So, because the “freedom to believe” one set of facts, rather than another—that is, to be “informed” by what an individual *himself* understands and accepts, or rejects, as “information”—is “absolute”; and because “informed consent” is founded upon an individual’s *own* beliefs as to relevant facts, not the beliefs of anyone else; therefore the freedom to “consent” to (or to dissent from) any action for which necessary and sufficient “information” is the predicate, and for which “consent” *vel non* is necessary, must be “absolute” as well. “If there is any fixed star in our constitutional constellation, it is that no official, high or petty, can prescribe what shall be orthodox in \* \* \* matters of opinion or force citizens to confess by word *or act* their faith therein.” *West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624, 642 (1943) (emphasis supplied). As far as “informed consent” is concerned, “to confess by word” relates to being “informed” and “to confess by \* \* \* act” relates to giving “consent”—and as to neither can some “orthodox[y]” be “prescribe[d]” by any “official, high or petty”.

After all, whoever chooses which beliefs an individual can, may, or should hold determines the foundation for that individual’s “consent”. If an individual does not establish *for himself* which beliefs to accept, then (all appearances aside) *he* does not “consent”—someone else “consents” *for* (or, perhaps better put, *against*) him. No one freely “consents” to any action when his own beliefs relevant thereto can be disparaged, denied, and dismissed by someone else as “faulty”, “false”, “fictitious”, “fatuous”, “foolish”, “fantastic”, or even “fabricated”—and the individual then is required to “consent” to that action on the basis of beliefs which contradict his own.

(b) Right now, most objections to the “mandates” of experimental “Covid-19” “vaccines” based upon individuals’ freedom of belief involve demands for exemptions predicated on the prohibition in the First Amendment that “Congress shall make no law \* \* \* prohibiting the free exercise [of religion]”, or the so-called “incorporation” of that disability into Section 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment as against the States. This makes perfect practical, political, and legal sense. For every such “mandate” is (at least supposedly) the spawn of some “law” enacted by Congress or a State’s legislature, to be enforced by some executive official, bureaucrat, or judge. And no legislator, executive official, bureaucrat, or judge in the government of the United States or the government of any State can, under color of such a “mandate”, “prohibit the free exercise [of religion]”.

Self-evidently, “the free exercise [of religion]” depends for its efficacy upon an individual’s ability to form and hold religious beliefs, and to act upon them in appropriate manners under appropriate circumstances. Specifically, religious beliefs can provide the “information” upon which an individual relies to give (or withhold) “informed consent” to participation in some program of mass “vaccination”. Inasmuch as the “informed” component of “informed consent” is *absolutely* within the control of the individual perforce of the First and Fourteenth Amendments, so too must the “consent” component be (as the latter depends upon the former). So, because neither Congress nor a State’s legislature can enact any “law” which interferes with an individual’s formation of or adherence to religious beliefs, no “‘vaccine’ mandate” promulgated under color of law can require an individual to “consent” to a “vaccination” which his religious beliefs oppose.

An individual’s expression of “consent” to “vaccination” is itself an action, which then results in further action in the form of his submission to an injection of a “vaccine”—neither of which actions is specifically “religious” in nature in and of itself. Yet, although “mandates” for “vaccination” might not be intentionally designed to interfere with anyone’s free exercise of religion, and might have some arguably valid secular purpose, yet in compelling “consent” in violation of the individual’s religious beliefs they will surely interfere with that exercise—and are unconstitutional on that ground. *Compare, e.g., Wisconsin v. Yoder*, 406 U.S. 205, 218 (1972) (compulsory public-school attendance law violates practice of the Amish religion).

(c) The principle of freedom to believe as one wills (that is, absolutely), and as a consequence to “consent” *vel non* as one wills (no less absolutely) in situations which involve the necessity of “consent”, extends beyond religious to all other beliefs within the ken of the First and Fourteenth Amendments.

(i) Of principal concern here is the freedom to hold such *scientific* beliefs as—  
That “Covid-19” is far less dangerous than public-health bureaucrats claim.

That safe, effective, and inexpensive alternatives to “vaccinations” are readily available (although unlawfully prohibited for that use by rogue “public-health” officials).

That the “vaccines” are experimental in nature, and have proven to be neither safe nor effective. And

That mass “vaccinations” through indiscriminate “mandates” threaten the health of “vaccinated” and un-“vaccinated” individuals alike, to the extent that “public health” in general is seriously endangered.

Necessarily, of course, for most Americans to form beliefs which they consider reliable with respect to such complex issues requires them to investigate, study, and accept the expert opinions of medical doctors and other scientists who more likely than not dissent from the official orthodoxies which “public-health” bureaucrats have spread throughout much of the federal system, the “mainstream” media, and the Internet. Although not explicitly mentioned in the First or the Fourteenth Amendment, the freedom of individuals to engage in associations of this sort in order to become “informed” about the exercise of their rights implicitly springs from the freedoms the First Amendment does catalog. “It is beyond debate that freedom to engage in association for the advancement of beliefs and ideas is an inseparable part of the ‘liberty’ assured by \* \* \* the Fourteenth Amendment, which embraces freedom of speech”; and “it is immaterial whether the beliefs sought to be advanced by association pertain to political, economic, religious or cultural matters”. *NAACP v. Alabama ex rel. Patterson*, 357 U.S. 449, 460 (1958). *Accord, e.g., United Transportation Union v. State Bar of Michigan*, 401 U.S. 576, 578-579 (1971); *Bates v. City of Little Rock*, 361 U.S. 516, 522-523 (1960). This is particularly important with respect to expressions of “informed consent” (or, of more consequence, “informed dissent”) as to “vaccinations”, because with the advent of “mandates” these normally private decisions have become matters of intense public controversy. And “[e]ffective advocacy of both public and private points of view, particularly controversial ones, is undeniably enhanced by group association, as th[e] Supreme Court has more than once recognized by remarking on the close nexus between the freedoms of speech and assembly.” *Patterson*, 357 U.S. at 460.

(ii) Also important with respect to “Covid-19”, “vaccines”, and “‘vaccine’ mandates” is each individual’s right to base “informed consent” (actually, “informed dissent”) on his own *political* beliefs. For example—

That the “Covid-19” narrative to which public-health bureaucrats and other officials have been exposing Americans is a species of unreliable, often intentionally deceptive, “*political science*” (that is, a scheme of *pseudo-“science”* defined and driven by politics) .

That this “political science” is the stalking horse for the entirely unscientific purpose of setting up, on both a national and an international scale, a system of pervasive police-state surveillance and control of individuals, using “‘vaccine’ mandates” administered through “‘vaccine’ passports” as the first step. And even

That an individual who “consents” to cooperate in such an unscientific and politically malicious “medical experiment” thereby becomes complicitous in a crime against humanity.

Of course, as with purely scientific beliefs, to become “informed” as to such political matters most Americans need to seek out and associate with experts in the field, as well as with other laymen.

(d) In all of these cases, individuals’ “informed consent” cannot be subjected to any “official” inquisition as to “truth” or “falsity”. For “under the First Amendment there is no such thing as a false idea.” *Gertz v. Robert Welch, Inc.*, 418 U.S. 323, 339 (1974). “Authoritative interpretations of the First Amendment guarantees have consistently refused to recognize an exception for any test of truth—whether administered by judges, juries, or administrative officials—and especially one that puts the burden of proving truth on the speaker. \* \* \* The constitutional protection does not turn upon ‘the truth, popularity, or social utility of the ideas and beliefs which are offered.’” *New York Times Company v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254, 271 (1964), *quoting NAACP v. Button*, 371 U.S. 415, 445 (1963). “The very purpose of the First Amendment is to foreclose public authority from assuming a guardianship of the public mind through regulating \* \* \* speech \* \* \* . In this field every person must be his own watchman for truth, because the forefathers did not trust any government to separate the true from the false for us.” *Thomas v. Collins*, 323 U.S. 516, 545 (1945) (Jackson, J., concurring). And, of course, these principles apply even more insistently to beliefs than to speech—because beliefs typically precede and determine the content of speech.

Moreover, “‘[f]ree trade in ideas’ means free trade in the opportunity to persuade to action, not merely to describe facts. \* \* \* Indeed, the whole history of the problem shows it is to the end of preventing action that repression is primarily directed and to preserving the right to urge it that the protections are given.” *Thomas v. Collins*, 323 U.S. 516, 537 (1945), *the first sentence quoted with approval in NAACP v. Button*, 371 U.S. 415, 437 (1963).

C. It should be kept squarely in mind that, in the final analysis, in every instance in which an individual asserts a constitutional exemption under the First, Fourth, Fifth, and Fourteenth Amendments from some “mandate” for compulsory “vaccination” against “Covid-19” (or any other experimental “medical treatment”) on the basis of beliefs

which form the foundation for his “informed consent” (actually, “informed dissent”), his right derives from laws even higher than those Amendments. That is of vital concern, inasmuch as the Judiciary claims a license to override every one of these Amendments if it imagines that public officials have a “compelling interest” in doing so, and proceed in a manner “least restrictive” of the rights the Amendments are intended to secure. Of course, this theory amounts to nonsense on stilts, inasmuch as: (i) the government’s most “compelling interest” is to abide by the Constitution, not to expand its powers and evade its disabilities; and (ii) even the “least restrictive” abridgment of or infringement on someone’s rights remains a restriction which by hypothesis the Constitution disallows. In any event, to date no court has dared openly to invent a “compelling interest” which supposedly can override “the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God” to any degree.

The most inclusive exemption from “‘vaccine’ mandates” rests upon the most obvious of “the Laws of Nature”—namely, the requirement of “informed consent” in aid of an individual’s right to “health, to freedom from pain, [and] to the integrity of his body”, now set out in the first “duty and responsibility” of the Nuremberg Code: namely that, no matter to what extent he has been “informed”, no individual can be required to “consent” to participate as a human guinea pig in what he believes to be a “medical experiment”.

A specifically religious exemption obviously derives from “the Laws \* \* \* of Nature’s God”—an individual’s religion being the source of “information” which precludes even the thought of his own “consent”, no matter to what degree some supposedly “scientific” data might support “consent” by other people.

Other “Laws of Nature” also apply—the most prominent being: (i) the sciences which explain the workings of the natural world, thereby enabling the targets of “‘vaccine’ mandates” to assess the necessity, safety, and efficacy *vel non* of “vaccines”, as well as alternative treatments, for “Covid-19”; and (ii) the intellectual discipline called “political science” (that is, the science of human nature with respect to politics), which enables individuals to understand how these “mandates” are the products of innate and applied human psychology, and especially of various psycho-pathologies which are largely responsible for causing most of the conflicts and disorders which plague society. *See, e.g., Andrew M. Lobaczewski, Political Ponerology: A Science on the Nature of Evil Adjusted for Political Purposes* (Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada: Red Pill Press, Second Edition, 2006). And

Ultimately, when “the good People” of the United States finally recognize that modern-day “‘vaccine’ mandates” are the latest and most dangerous of “a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object[, which] evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism”, both “the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God” will (as the Declaration of Independence attests) justify the exercise of “their right” and “their duty[ ] to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security”. *See T. Rutherford, Institutes of Natural Law, ante, Volume the Second, Chapter X, Section XI, at 663-668.*

**D.** Perhaps, though, it is too early for “the good People” to contemplate “throw[ing] off such Government”, or even (as the Declaration of Independence also recognizes as their right) “to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government”. There still remains a slim chance that a critical mass of Americans will finally realize how the requirement of “informed consent” absolutely negates all “‘vaccine’ mandates”—and that mounting public resistance will pressure the clique controlling the present resident in the White House to abandon the “mandates”, will embolden Governors and Legislatures in at least some of the several States to invoke the doctrine of “interposition” in order to block the imposition of “mandates” on their own citizens, and even will nerve five Justices of the Supreme Court to strike down the “mandates” as violative at least of the Constitution, if not (better yet) of the Declaration of Independence and “the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God”.

The evident problem right now is that all too few Americans seem ready and willing to call a spade a spade—bluntly put, to recognize that, with respect to “Covid-19”, this country is not dealing with “science” at all, unless it be the science of criminology. Indeed, if Dostoevsky were writing a novel about the present “pandemic”, he would be compelled to entitle it, not *Crime and Punishment*, but *Crime without Punishment*, inasmuch as the perpetration of serious offenses by rogue public officials, attended by no fear of exposure let alone punishment, is endemic to Washington, D.C., and all too many of the States as well. It is against *that* “pandemic” that Americans need a “vaccination” which will open their eyes, clear their minds, and steel their wills. For if *that* “pandemic” is not soon eradicated, this country’s doom is assured.

<https://newswithviews.com/the-absolute-right-of-informed-consent/>

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## **Regev: I will run for the Likud leadership after Netanyahu steps away**

**MK Miri Regev denounces efforts to take over Likud leadership while Netanyahu is mulling a plea bargain: We should respect Netanyahu at this time.**

*Elad Benari, Canada 21.01.22 21:56*

**MK Miri Regev said on Friday that she would run for the leadership of the Likud after current Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu steps away.**

**"I announced that, the day after Netanyahu, I will run for the Likud leadership,"** Regev told *Channel 12 News* in an interview.

**Responding to a question about polls showing that the Likud would win 30 seats if it were led by Nir Barkat, she stated, "I saw the polls, I am unfazed by the polls.** I will do everything to ensure that Gideon [Sa'ar], Ayelet [Shaked] or [Ze'ev] Elkin do not return to the Likud. The Likud is not the punching bag of any politician. Anyone who harmed the Likud will not have a place in the Likud - and I will do everything to make it happen."

Asked **about reports that MK Yisrael Katz is holding talks with the goal of forming a government led by him, Regev replied, "I have not heard about this it and I think that if he is indeed doing it, he is making a very big mistake.** I suggest that we wait for Netanyahu's decision [about signing a plea bargain]. Netanyahu should take his time in making his difficult decision. Already starting to distribute the loot is not the right thing to do. We will act in accordance with the Likud bylaws. Yisrael Katz will probably not be the only candidate for the Likud leadership."

"It could **be that Katz is working behind the scenes, but in order to be the chairman of the Likud, you have to be elected,"** Regev explained. **"The day after Netanyahu,** I too will run alongside many others who said they will run. I suggest at this time that we respect Netanyahu and not act behind his back or work to form a coalition. In my opinion, this entire conduct is ugly if it is indeed taking place."

Regev also commented on the contacts on a plea bargain between Netanyahu and the Attorney General.

"I was not offended by Netanyahu. There is no place to be offended here, it is a personal decision. I would recommend going all the way with the trial because I believe in Netanyahu's innocence, but I will respect his every decision. I do not want to put myself in his shoes, this is a family that has been persecuted for many years. I do not know what Netanyahu is willing to admit. Many people admit to things they do not believe in. Many people admit in a plea bargain because they do not believe in the justice system. So many people have signed a plea deal because it's the shortest way to end it." <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320919>

## **US sanctions Hezbollah-linked individuals**

**US Treasury sanctions three Lebanese nationals and 10 companies linked to Lebanon-based terrorist organization.**

*Elad Benari, Canada 21.01.22 22:20*

**The United States on Friday imposed sanctions on three Lebanese nationals and 10 companies it said were part of an international Hezbollah network.**

**The US Treasury Department said in a statement quoted by Reuters that it designated Adnan Ayad, who it said was a Hezbollah member and businessman, as well as other members of an international network of facilitators** and companies connected to him and his business partner, Adel Diab, who was designated by Washington on Tuesday.

On Tuesday, the United States [sanctioned three businessmen](#) with ties to the Hezbollah terrorist organization.

In addition to Diab, the Treasury Department added Ali Mohamad Daoun and Jihad Salem Alame, and their company Dar Al Salam for Travel & Tourism, to its sanctions list.

Tuesday's action requires all property owned by the three men and their business that is in the United States to be blocked and reported to the department, and that all transactions related to the property by US citizens be prohibited. In recent months, the United States [has placed sanctions](#) on several Lebanese officials linked to Hezbollah.

This has included sanctions [against two former Lebanese Cabinet ministers](#) allied with the terrorist organization: Ex-finance minister Ali Hassan Khalil and the former public works and transportation minister, Youssef Fenianos.

In addition, [Washington sanctioned](#) Gebran Bassil, the leader of Lebanon's biggest Christian political bloc and son-in-law of President Michel Aoun, accusing him of corruption and ties to Hezbollah.

In September, the US, in coordination with Qatar, [sanctioned seven people](#), including Qatari nationals Ali al-Banai and Ali Lari, who were said to have secretly sent tens of millions of dollars to the Lebanese-based terrorist organization. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/320921>

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